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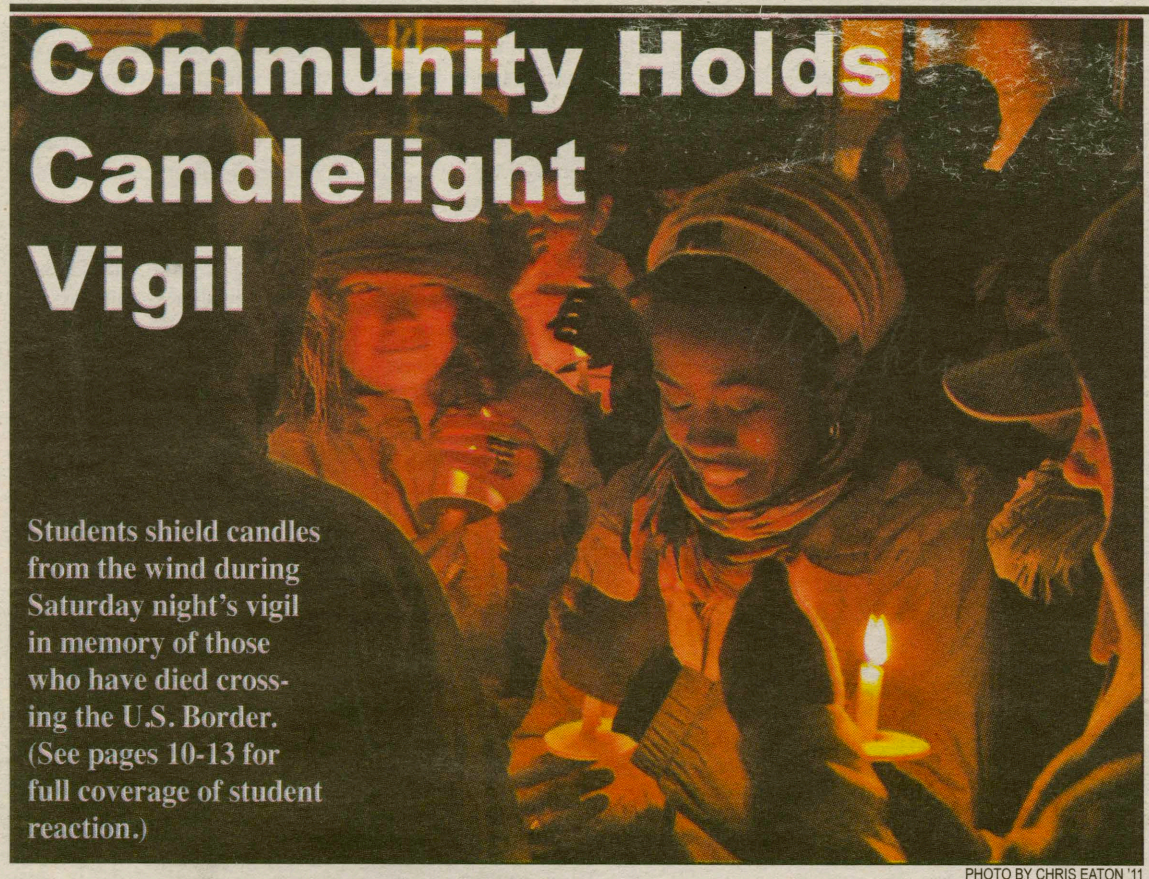

Community Holds Candlelight Vigil

Students shield candles from the wind during Saturday night's vigil in memory of those who have died crossing the U.S. Border. (See pages 10-13 for full coverage of student reaction.)

PHOTO BY CHRIS EATON '11

Memorial Held Outside "Mexican Night" on Saturday

by Julia Mulcrone '11
News Writer

"As human beings, we have a moral obligation not to attend this party," read a flyer distributed throughout campus regarding Delta Phi's 53rd annual "Mexican Night" party. The flyer urged the Hamilton community to participate in a vigil in lieu of attending the event. Many members of the community have taken offense to the invitations that promoted the event (including the flyer's publishers, Hamilton student members of the migrant aid organization No More Deaths). This controversy has ignited a heated debate on campus.

In response to the invitations, students from a number of campus organizations came together to organize a vigil that was, according to an all campus e-mail from the Social Justice Initiative (SJI), "in honor of the 4,000 or more people who have lost their lives crossing our southern border since 1994 and their families." The vigil was scheduled for the same time as "Mexican Night" and held close to its location in the Tolles Pavilion (Annex), a fact that led to speculation that the vigil was also a protest of the party.

Around 10 p.m., the 50 or so people participating in the vigil began to gather at the bottom of the stairs next to the Events Barn. Despite the rain, those participating moved outside to the entrance in front of the Annex with lit candles. After a few words from an organizer reminding everyone that "[their] actions [were] not going to go unnoticed," participants held a moment of silence in remembrance of those who have died crossing the border.

The vigil attendees then congregated in the Events Barn for student performances that included poetry, speeches and singing. Some performers supplemented their creative work by sharing personal stories concerning immigration.

Vigil organizers seemed happy with the turnout that, in addition to students, included Acting President Joe Urgo, Dean of Students Nancy Thompson and various faculty members. (Urgo also stopped by the party.) Said Jose Iraheta '11, a student involved in the organization of the event, "All of this was rigged up in two or three days, but we're still proud of what we've done." Regarding faculty presence at the vigil, Assistant Professor of Sociology Jenny Irons said, "Faculty support for students of color on this campus is widespread and strong, and many of us are very concerned about the impact the incident will have on these students and on the campus community as a whole."

After the performances ended around midnight, those interested were invited to stand at the entrances to the party holding signs with words such as, "I don't feel safe here," "I don't feel respected" and "I don't feel my voice is heard." Standing both outside the entrance to the Annex and on the Beinecke stairs leading down to the Annex, vigil participants made sure that partygoers would have to pass through their signs and acknowl

*see **Invitation,** page 3*

Concerned Students Call Out to Faculty

by Ezra A. Rosenberg '10
News Editor

The Fillius Events Barn balcony could not hold all of the students who organized at Tuesday afternoon's faculty meeting to declare, "We need you to stand with us…We need you to take action." Students, who described themselves as "concerned students," declared that they are offended by College officials' lack of action and lack of response to a growing number of campus events which they described as "hate speech."

Students contended that faculty support is needed. Corinne Bancroft '09 read and submitted an open letter to the faculty calling on them "to pass a motion laying concrete plans for moving forward. We hope that you, either as a body, a group of individuals, or with the aid of an outside organization, will facilitate some event and further discussion that addresses these issues by the end of the semester."

Hamilton Faculty meetings are open to the public, but strictly follow Roberts' Rules of Order, which specifically call for the chair of the meeting to initiate all debate within the quorum. 10 of the concerned students delayed the start of the meeting when they stood at the front of the seated faculty and read a series of statements.

The 39 statements highlighted how student have been offended and citied both events and racially insensitive terms that have been used on campus. The students concluded in unison saying, "We demand action."

The faculty meeting proceeded as normal, and it appeared the faculty would begin debating edits to

*see **Students Express,** page 3*

Former Child Soldier Raps on War in Darfur

by Kerry Q. Coughlin '11
News Writer

Few, if any, Hamilton students have childhood memories of fighting for a rebel army in a war-torn nation. Emmanuel Jal, who spoke to the Hamilton community on Thursday, April 2, shared his experience as a former Sudanese child soldier who has found an outlet in rapping and writing to tell his story. "I swallow my own pride and sacrifice my own story to be a voice for those who can't speak," began Jal. By "those who can't speak," Jal was referring to the millions of people whose lives have been destroyed by the conflict and civil war in Darfur, Sudan.

Jal was born in southern Su-

*see **Jal,** page 18*

PHOTO COURTESY OF COMMUNICATION & DEVELOPMENT

Emmanuel Jal speaks to students about the violence in Darfur, Sudan on Thursday, April 2 in the Chapel.

Ward Churchill Wins Case

Scandal over academic dishonesty originated at Hamilton

by Kate Tummarello '11
Managing Editor

When University of Colorado professor Ward Churchill was invited to speak at Hamilton in the spring of 2005, a controversial essay he had written led to national outcry, spurred by Bill O'Reilly, against him and the College. The College cancelled the event due to threats of violence against Churchill, and the attention that the essay brought to Churchill's work resulted in an investigation by the University into his academic research. Churchill was then terminated based on academic misconduct. He filed and recently won a wrongful termination lawsuit against the University of Colorado.

Representatives from the University of Colorado argued that the termination was solely based on his academic dishonesty. Churchill, on the other hand, contended that it was in response to a controversial essay in which he insinuates that the victims of the World Trade Center attacks deserved their fate, an issue first brought to light in the Hamilton controversy. The jury agreed with Churchill, finding last week that his political views had been an influential factor in his termination.

The investigation was ordered by the university's Board of Regents and conducted by a committee of faculty members. This committee found evidence

*see **Jury Cites,** page 2*

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College Celebrates 40 Years of Women on the Hill

by Haley Riemer-Peltz '12
News Writer

In celebrating the 40th anniversary of Kirkland College's establishment, alumni and current students paid tribute to Kirkland's influence on Hamilton. This past Saturday, April 4, there were programs throughout the day discussing the integration of women on the Hill and the Kirkland legacy. The events consisted of panels discussing the "Kirkland Generation," the "Kirkland Endowment and Legacy," and "40 Years of Women on the Hill."

"The Kirkland Generation" was a panel discussion of the Hamilton/Kirkland dynamic over the school's ten-year life span. The panel, moderated by Shelley Cowan K'75, included Professor Frank Anechiarico '71, Peter Arturi '75, Maureen Fellows '80, Jennie Morris K'72 and Lars Nielsen '77. The panelists discussed their experiences of the merging of the two cultures, and of relations between the two groups of alumni since graduating.

PHOTO BY REBECCA FORNABY '10

An original sign from Kirkland at the end of Martin's Way.

"The Kirkland Endowment" and Legacy was an open discussion of this significant piece of Kirkland still operating on the hill today. The program was led by Acting President Joe Urgo and Vice President for Communications and Development Richard Tantillo.

"40 Years of Women on the Hill" featured a panel of five women—an alumnus from each decade of women on the Hill and one current Hamilton student. The panelists were Tami Aisenson K'75, Melissa Chestnut '82, Sara Shapiro Harberson '97, Ann Horwitz '06 and Emma Woods '09. The discussion was moderated by Professor Margaret Thickstun and introduced by Urgo.

Thickstun asked the panel about their general experience at Kirkland or Hamilton. Aisenson, the only Kirkland alumna, praised the college's eccentric approach, which did not include formal grades or traditional classroom settings. She sought to take at least one class on the Hamilton campus per semester. "At the time the two colleges had very different educational philosophies," she commented. The experience at Kirkland was centered on women—"Everything was women," she described. "If it was an English class, it was women in literature, if it was sociology, it was women in society."

Chestnut, who originally thought she was applying to Kirkland, had an experience that was very different from Aisenson's. "We experienced a lot of tension around the merging…of the two cultures," she explained.

Thickstun then asked the panel what Kirkland means to them. Woods gave what she thought of as most current students' understanding of Kirkland: "women's college, no grades, sat on the floor," she described. "People know what it means on the surface level but most don't understand how much of what Hamilton is we owe to Kirkland and its spirit of adventure."

Shapiro Harberson explained originally liking the overall Hamilton aura, but not really appreciating Kirkland until she got here. "It felt good to know that there were progressive ideas coming from the dark side, and that Kirkland had a big influence on Hamilton," she stated.

Shapiro Harberson's mention of the dark side sparked the next topic of discussion: where did the terms "light side" and "dark side" originate and what are their connotations? Horowitz explained a common myth that there had been a power outage in the '80s that only hit the Kirkland side of campus. "But it could also be because of the Soviet architecture," she added.

The discussion continued with each woman explaining Kirkland/Hamilton's influence since graduating. Each expressed similar feelings of having completely grown as individuals and kept that with them since. Woods, the one panelist yet to graduate noted, "not yet knowing what I'm doing, I at least feel like I can do anything, and I can never know enough."

SA Update

Dean Thompson: No G-Road Party

by Eve Denton '12
Student Assembly Correspondent

Dean of Students Nancy Thompson spoke at the April 6 Student Assembly meeting about changes planned for the upcoming Class and Charter Day on May 8, 2009. The administration feels that in past years the celebration at the Griffin Road apartments has grown out of control, with students wandering through faculty yards, disturbing the HamTrek path and eight ambulances being called last year to assist intoxicated students.

Thompson is open to suggestions of alternative ways for students to have fun. She stated, "We will not be doing a big event at Griffin Road, but I do recognize the end of year is something to celebrate and I do want to facilitate that, but not in the way it has happened in the past… I know this is sad to hear, and I am sorry, but I would like to work with [Hamilton students] to figure out a safe and legal way to deal with this."

Thompson stated that the college will not turn a blind eye and current rules for Griffin Road residents will be in place. Students living there will be welcome to have friends over, but they will be responsible for parties held in their apartments. She hopes that with enough advance notice and conversation beforehand, students will make alternate plans and not simply show up at the apartments. The goal for this year's Class and Charter Day is that fun and games are promoted in a more responsible way. "I cannot put my stamp of approval on such a dangerous activity," Thompson said in reference to the Griffin Road celebrations.

Other ideas suggested by SA during the discussion about Class and Charter Day included smaller parties on Minor Field, the possibility of societies hosting parties in social spaces and hosting outdoor band performances. It would be difficult to throw a party in a social space due to the necessity for a sober social host and event staff, however Thompson stated the administration's goal to "support fun, cool, safe things on that day."

Food:

Bon Appetit is working to have more of the salads offered in McEwen available in Commons. April 22 is Low Carbon Day. Bon Appetite will not offer bananas, sushi, beef and other foods that travel from long distances. The new equivalency system is in place and on Saturday evenings, from 8 p.m. to midnight, students can use their meal for ice cream and soda.

Technology:

Students are encouraged to participate in the Educause Center for Applied Research. ECAR has selected Hamilton College specifically to conduct focus groups studies in how we use technology on campus. The survey that will be happening Thursday, April 16 at noon, 1pm, 4pm, and 5pm in the Bristol Assembly Room (307). There will be free pizza and soda available

The Technology Committee will meet with the Registrar next Wednesday about WebAdvisor. Students who have had difficulty should e-mail their horror stories to kwillner@hamilton.edu.

Churchill Jury Cites Hamilton Incident

from ***Ward Churchill,*** *page 1*

of plagiarism and falsified research, including citing other scholars' works that Churchill had actually ghostwritten, implying the existence of evidence that supported his ideas.

In his opening statement, Patrick O'Rourke, a lawyer representing the university, said, "Churchill was fired for one reason and one reason only: he engaged in the worst kind of academic fraud that you can." O'Rourke called Churchill's world "a place where there are no standards and no accountability."

Churchill and his supporters were firm in their belief that free speech, rather than academic integrity, was the issue at hand. After the jury announced their verdict, Churchill's lawyer, David A. Lane, said, "This is a great victory for the First Amendment, and for academic freedom." Although Churchill, who is waiting to hear about reinstatement, was only awarded $1, he was satisfied with the result of the trial. "I didn't ask for money, I asked for justice," he said.

Churchill's right to free speech and academic freedom was first called into question when he was asked to speak at Hamilton as part of the Kirkland Project for the Study of Gender, Society and Culture. After reading about his visit and academic work in *The Spectator*, many members of the Hamilton community were outraged by his essay on the World Trade Center attacks, "Some People Push Back: On the Justice of Roosting Chickens." In the essay, Churchill describes victims of the attacks as "little Eichmanns," referring to Adolf Eichmann, often accused of being "the architect of the Holocaust." His premise was that as members of corporate America, the victims were themselves guilty of the exploitation and destruction that prompted the attacks.

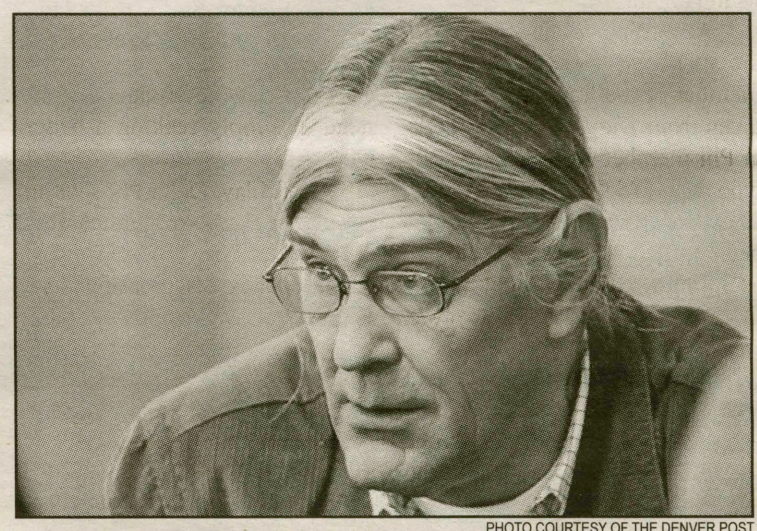

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE DENVER POST

Churchill testifying in court, prior to winning his case.

Hamilton, and specifically the Kirkland Project, experienced backlash from members of the Hamilton community as well as those outside of it. Responses included e-mails from parents and alumni expressing emotions ranging from mild discontent to outright disgust. Nationally, Fox News host Bill O'Reilly begged his viewers to contact the college to protest Churchill's invitation to campus. As a result of these responses, some of the College's donors withdrew their support, which partially explains the eight percent decrease in alumni donor participation rate between 2004 and 2006.

Hamilton's administration released statements in which they defended their right to invite any speaker and stated the importance of having an "opportunity to encounter and respond to people from outside the college community in their intensity and their immediacy [as] among the key attributes of a liberal education." When threats of violence surfaced, however, the College decided to cancel Churchill's visit due to safety concerns.

At the time of his scheduled visit, attitudes toward Churchill among faculty members and students were divided. In a faculty meeting in 2005, Professor Robert Paquette referred to Churchill as a fraud and claimed, "Hamilton College should not be in the business of subsidizing a fraud." While acknowledging the obvious division, Professor Klinkner, who was supposed to join the Kirkland Project panel with Churchill, said, "the general view of the students was 'let him speak.'" Although "it became pretty clear that he was a fraud and a con man," according to Klinkner, "even frauds and con men have some First Amendment rights."

The jury agreed. The extent to which these rights prevail will be seen when the jury determines whether or not Churchill will be reinstated.

Invitation, Party Sparks Campus-wide Discourse on Tolerance

from ***Community,*** *page 1*

edge that an alternative to the party was taking place.

Some students on campus considered the vigil a necessary reaction to the "Mexican Night" invitations placed in student mailboxes by the Delta Phi fraternity. The invitation depicted a wall along the United States border, in front of which stood a guard with a gun and a piñata with a ladder leading up into its interior. "Proper documents required," a twist of the usual "Pub ID required," was written alongside the image.

Some students were offended by how Delta Phi chose to publicize the party, feeling that the invitation (and the party itself) perpetuated harmful stereotypes about Mexicans and their culture. Others were upset about what they perceived to be the invitation's negative implications regarding Mexican immigration into the United States due to the image's allusion to the story of the Trojan horse. In the story, the Greeks trick their longtime enemy, the Trojans, by using a giant wooden horse to gain entry into the city of Troy. Once inside, the Greeks destroy the city and kill its inhabitants.

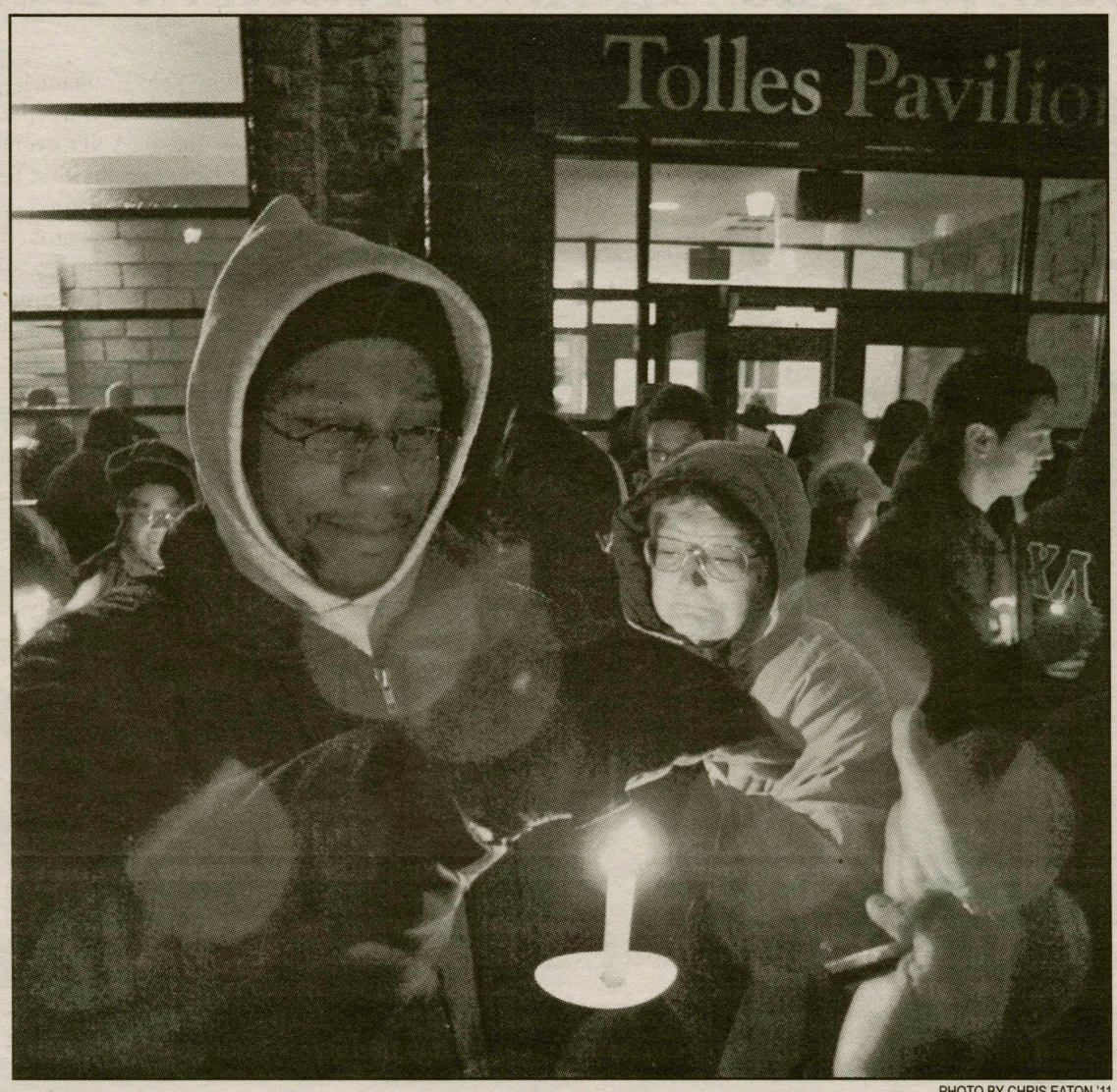

PHOTO BY CHRIS EATON '11

A. Todd Franklin, associate professor of philosophy, with other vigil participants.

According to the fraternity, the image was not produced by a member of the fraternity but was taken from *The Daily Show*. Delta Phi member Rob Taussig '09, who designed the invitation, said, "Mexican Night, traditionally, has been thrown on the weekend prior to Spring Break to commemorate spring breakers who tend to flock to Mexico (Cancun, et al.) for vacation. The idea is that you are leaving America (Hamilton) and entering Mexico (our party), so we traditionally include a border of some sort to symbolize this migration. …[The image] is actually a parody on Bush's fear mongering, and trivializes the population of Americans who actually believe Mexican immigrants have hostile intentions, as the Trojans did, instead of simply seeking a better life."

On Friday, Delta Phi sent an official apology through campus mail that said the following: "On Wednesday we placed an invitation to our annual Mexican Night party in your box. The creation and distribution of this invitation did not seek to demean or diminish immigrants or the value of Mexican culture. In developing this invitation, we suffered from a gross oversight and failed to realize the potentially offensive nature of the featured image. While we meant no harm, we realize that many members of the Hamilton Community have been personally hurt and offended by our imagery. For this, we apologize wholeheartedly."

According to Delta Phi President Wally Greene '10, the fraternity deliberately chose to distribute an apology through campus mail rather than e-mail because they wanted to send it via the same method they sent the invitation.

Urgo sent out an all campus e-mail about the incident in which he said, "The image should in fact be offensive to anyone who recognizes the realities facing immigrants and their families in America today." He added, "Troubling as they are in the heat of the moment, events like this present an opportunity for dialogue among and within various campus constituencies. It is only through such engagement, rather than simple punishment or withdrawal, that we advance as a community. Failure to conduct open, face-to-face dialogue only polarizes us."

In response to these two letters, a Facebook event page entitled, "Boycott Mexican Night @ The Annex," was cancelled and taken off the website. Benjamin Peña '12, creator of the Facebook event that helped inspire the vigil, said, "I have accepted Delta Phi's apology and would have liked to have ended the 'Mexican Night' controversy without further protest."

Abdel Ahab Abdelghany '10, who had personally appealed for more administrative response after last year's incident involving the vandalism of a student's car with racial slurs, expressed his satisfaction at the administrations' handling of this particular incident. He said, "The administration has come a long way, and we need to make sure they know we appreciate that."

However, other members of the Hamilton community said that the responses by Delta Phi and Urgo were insufficient. These concerned people and their supporters organized the vigil. Although the all campus e-mails from the various groups sponsoring the vigil contained no mention of the party and instead focused on the deaths of those who have crossed the border, the flyers posted around campus clearly linked the vigil to the party: They asked that Hamilton community members join them outside the Annex to participate in a vigil rather than attend "Mexican Night."

Throughout the night, students called on the administration to take action. Specific suggestions were not discussed at the vigil, although all speakers addressed what they felt to be the continuing problem of intolerance at Hamilton. Concerned students are now in the process of offering suggestions including requests for a third party mediator, as well as demanding a concrete plan for the future from the administration.

Michael Bethoney '11, who gave a speech at the vigil, said in an e-mail, "What is needed is an administration-sponsored discussion on hate speech detailing the consequences of its use at Hamilton College, as well as legitimate enforcement of these rules." Others thought that this incident provided even more support for the necessity of a Cultural Education Center.

Despite speculation, there

see ***Vigil,*** *page 4*

Students Express Outrage at Faculty Meeting

from ***Concerned Students,*** *page 1*

the faculty handbook. However, Associate Professor of Sociology Stephen Ellingson interjected with a motion to suspend the rules and immediately proceed to the fourth item on the agenda entitled "Ask Joe Urgo" in order to "discuss the events of this past weekend." Ellingson explained to the faculty, "We will have the handbook forever, but we only have the students now."

The faculty voted by overwhelming margin to allow Acting President Joe Urgo to speak. Urgo proceeded to read a prepared speech about student objection to a Delta Phi party flyer for their annual "Mexican Night" party and the subsequent vigil held in memory of immigrants attempting to cross the U.S. Mexican border. Urgo, who attended the vigil and party, opened the floor to faculty asking, "How should we proceed?"

A number of faculty spoke on the issue including Associate Professor of Theatre Mark Cryer. Cryer challenged the audience by repeatedly asking, "Are you going to be angry long enough to do something positive about the problem?" Throughout the faculty debate, the concerned students snapped their fingers to indicate approval.

Dean of Students Nancy Thompson stood to address questions and to report upon measures taken by the Dean of Students Office. Thompson apologized for misinterpreting student e-mails sent to her office and vowed to perform her job better in the future.

Thompson's discussion soon transitioned into a back and forth dialogue with the concerned students present. Students contended that more needs to be done and urged the administration to bring in an outside consultant with expertise in racial discrimination issues. Some students went as far as to say, "I don't feel safe and if I don't feel safe, the entire community is not safe."

The student dialogue with faculty and administrators lasted for about half an hour before faculty concluded the discussion and returned to the planned agenda. The discourse was marked by both emotional and heated moments: one student said to the deans, "If nothing happens in two days, you will have me in your face."

Following the meeting Urgo said, "I believe the faculty recognized that when a significant portion of the student body expresses distress and discomfort, rules may need to be suspended in order to hear what the students have to say" and "I support the faculty in its collective decision to allow the students to be heard ."

This Tuesday's student-faculty interaction marks a distinct change from past student attempts to reach out for assistance. On November 7, 2007 over 75 students staged a silent protest at a faculty meeting. At that meeting students had similar concerns, but did not speak until acknowledged by faculty halfway through the meeting. Upon recognition, one student read a prepared statement on the behalf of all the students present, a stark contrast from Tuesday's meeting at which approximately a dozen different students voiced their concerns.

PHOTO BY RUSS DOUBLEDAY '11

Students line the Events Barn stairs as they listen and wait for a chance to weigh in at the faculty meeting.

STAND Campaigns Against Racism Despite Rain

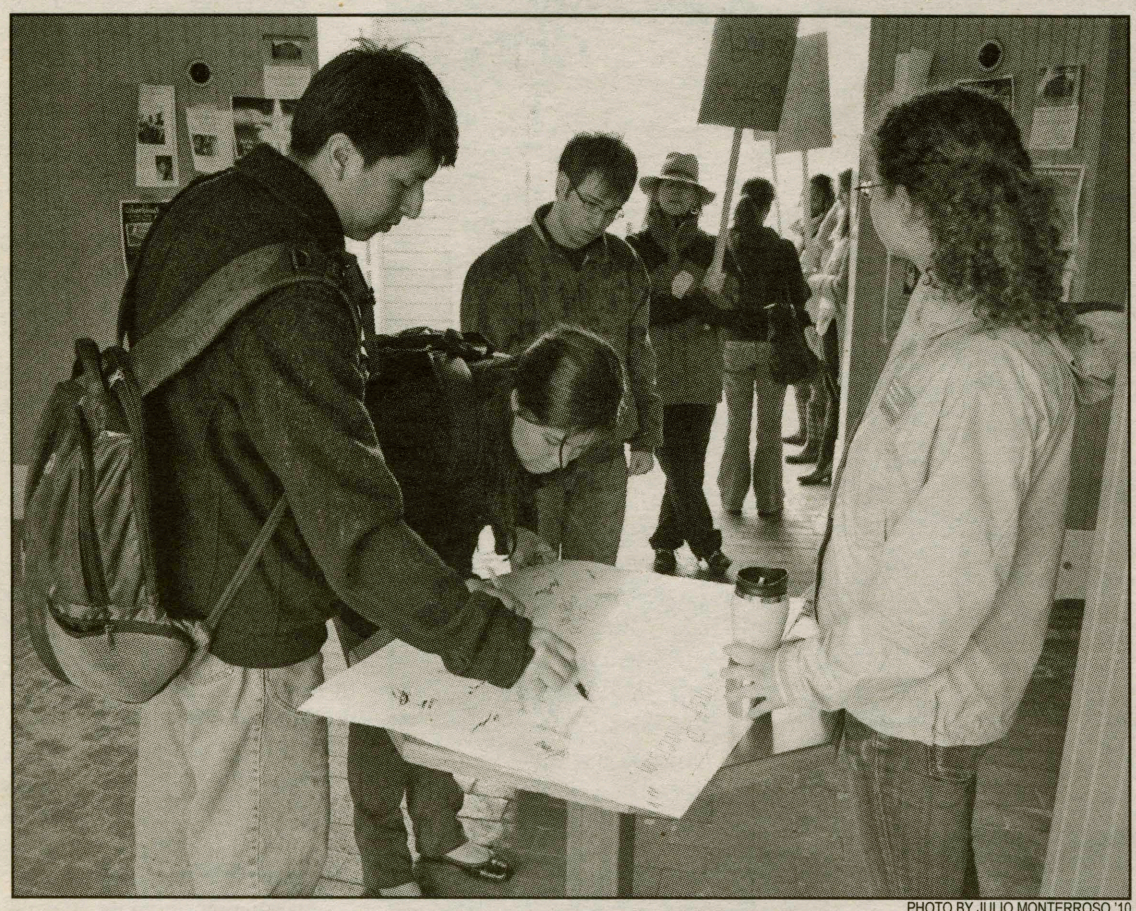

PHOTO BY JULIO MONTERROSO '10

Students stop in the Beinecke overhang to sign STAND Against Racism posters.

by Kate Moore '12
News Writer

Despite the torrential afternoon downpour, small clusters of students with orange signs chose to stand outside rather than seek shelter. The Stand Against Racism campaign that took place Friday, April 3 marked the end of a week buzzing with campus-wide discussion about how the College community deals with racial issues. The displays on campus were part of a national effort sponsored by the Racial Justice Institute of the YWCA's of Trenton and Princeton, NJ. Last Friday was the designated day for participating groups in the Northeast to "take a stand" against racism.

Hamilton sponsored a demonstration in conjunction with the YWCA of Mohawk Valley. Meredith Harper Bonham, executive assistant to the president and secretary to the Board of Trustees, is also on the YWCA board. According to her, Hamilton was one of several sites around the Mohawk Valley area that participated, including Mohawk Valley Community College and Clinton schools.

"Educational organizations in particular are an important partner in this effort because of their access to young people and young adults," said Bonham.

Although this is only the second year the STAND event has taken place, and the first in which the Hamilton community has been involved, it has proved to be a success. The website www.standagainstracism.org claims over 25,000 individuals around the Northeast were involved in Friday's demonstration. Different organizations used various strategies to attract an audience and make a statement, including rallies and performances. Hamilton students, led by Barbara Britt-Hysell, coordinator of the ESOL program, stationed themselves around campus with orange signs and posters to serve as pledges. Passersby were encouraged to "take a stand against racism" by pausing to add their signature to the poster. Participants in the event wanted to raise awareness and to remind students, staff and faculty of their belief that racism pervades both society at large and the Hamilton community.

The campaigners garnered responses ranging from sympathetic to sarcastic. Though foot traffic through Beinecke was sparse, advocates at that station managed to amass a significant number of signatures. However, some people were not compelled to action. One student dismissed the STAND group entirely, saying "I'm a racism supporter, actually," without stopping to listen to or converse with the protestors. Others said they were too preoccupied, citing that they had assignments to turn in or a student tour to lead.

In response to these claims, protestor Melissa Young '09 said, "Racism will still be here when you get back!"

Most of the students who protested at Beinecke were recruited by Britt-Hysell and chose to take a stand on impulse. Still, their convictions were strong and deeply ingrained in their individual experiences.

"For me, because I'm black, it [racism] follows me everywhere I go. I can't get rid of it," said Young. She chose to take a stand because of her belief that "one day we really could live in a post-racial society. But I don't think that could happen in the near future."

Participants in the program said that they were aware that the event would not incite immediate action against an ignorant practice so deeply ingrained in American culture. However, they hoped that their presence would remind members of the Hamilton community, if only for a moment, that this persistent problem must be addressed by individuals as well as society as a whole. By the end of the 15 minute event, numerous posters had been covered in signatures. Each name represented one individual who took the time to take a stand. Organizers hoped that together, those signatures represented an entire community committed to opposing racism.

Vigil Leaders Call for Action Against Ignorance

from ***Invitation,*** *page 3*

not seem to be any major fluctuations in "Mexican Night" attendance: Greene claimed it was the normal amount expected for a half-Annex party, and said, "We were happy with our attendance." He said that relations between Delta Phi and the vigil participants remained peaceful.

Interactions between partygoers and vigil participants appeared to be generally calm, although there were some reports of conflict. Partygoers and vigil participants engaged in conversation, some of which concerned the party and some of which extended to broader issues, such as that of immigration. However, some students said that they witnessed or faced harassment.

Vigil participant Kaitlyn Bishara '09 said, "I've had some very negative reactions thus far," and mentioned an incident in which a partygoer dumped a cup of beer on the feet of a vigil participant standing outside the Annex. Stephanie Ryder '09 said, "After leaving the party, I was asked to join the protest. When I declined, I was called a f***ing racist."

Urgo said that he stopped by both the vigil and the party to express his support for all Hamilton students. In an e-mail interview the following day, he said, "I don't see two sides to this issue, what I see are Hamilton students working through critical issues in various ways."

There were a variety of reactions from those who attended the party. Some partygoers said that they attended to express their support for Delta Phi or said that they wished to remain neutral, while others expressed their guilt for attending. One student who attended the party said, "I'm Jewish and there's [things] that have offended me on this campus, and now I'm here at this thing that has upset a lot of people here. Does that make me a hypocrite?" He added, "It's really hard to have a good time." This student wished to remain anonymous due to the intensity of the controversy.

Urgo said, "I don't see two sides to this issue, what I see are Hamilton students working through critical issues in various ways.'

Some Hamilton community members thought that in light of Delta Phi's apology and the response of the administration, the vigil took the controversy too far. Abdelghany said, "The point of protesting is that some injustice has occurred and no one has acknowledged it or taken action to acknowledge it. The administration has responded adequately and opened up the door for dialogue. ...If the point was to talk about racism and have a dialogue, then it was accomplished. My question is: What are we fighting for here?"

Other students felt that the vigil was necessary due to the fraternity's response to the outcry against the invitation. Corinne Bancroft '09 said, "Actions speak louder than words and, although I appreciate Delta Phi's apology, I believe that for the many people who were hurt by the hateful imagery on the invitation, either changing the theme or cancelling the event would have been a more meaningful course of action." In a campus-wide e-mail supporting the vigil, Associate Professor of Philosophy A. Todd Franklin wrote, "When apologies are issued, but everything remains the same, one wonders."

There were also people who believed that the organizers of the vigil were needlessly targeting Delta Phi. Others did not view the timing of the vigil simultaneously with the party as a smart move. Christopher Lloyd '09 said, "Having a vigil for 4,000 deaths is acceptable, but doing so during a party cheapens it. I think the vigil should have happened at another time."

Vigil participants were eager to say that it was necessary to hold the vigil at the same time as the party. Mica Warton '09 said, "These are exactly the people we want to talk to because they're attending the party. They need to see us." She added, "Even our partying can be racist."

In response to the criticism that the vigil organizers were just using the offensive invitation as a platform for their own goals, Warton said, "This is absolutely a platform. ...Something like this brings it out and now we can fight it." Warton was referring to the issue of racism at Hamilton; an issue that many students who attended the vigil feel is a major problem on campus. Said Siege Santiago '09, "Racism is alive on this campus. It's overt and unacceptable." Organizers viewed the vigil as a means to bring racial awareness to Hamilton, something that they feel has been preached but not realized on campus.

As a result of the campus' response to this incident, the administration plans to continue a discussion of racial and ethnic tolerance at Hamilton. Associate Dean for Diversity Initiatives Steven Yao said that, at this point, the College is planning to host a "semi-open" forum consisting of "student leaders from the principal organizations involved in the party and the vigil. The concerned students have asked that faculty be invited as well." Yao added, "I am hoping that there will [also] be a public forum."

While the fallout from the party and its advertisement have raised concerns about any ethnic-themed party on campus in the future, Greene said that, "Next year and in the following years, the whole presentation of our theme needs to be re-evaluated, but the party itself will remain."

THE SPECTATOR EDITORIAL

Moving Past Mexican Night: A Conversation without Borders

The past week's controversy has created divisions among the student body, faculty, administration, and even *The Spectator* editorial board. While our editorials usually present a solid conclusion or call for action, in this case we could not reach a consensus because this issue is so multifaceted. There is more than one issue at hand, and many more than two sides. This is not a simple yes or no question, and we cannot offer a simple yes or no answer.

As the two news articles, dozens of opinions in the "Voices" section, and numerous letters to the editor show, this is not a two-sided issue and we need to stop treating it as such. That is one of the points we hope you will draw from our extensive coverage. We had to devote more than five pages to the issue in our efforts to encompass the diversity of opinion, and we still could not include everything. An obstacle to this discussion is the illusion that there is an "us" and a "them." Read the ideas presented throughout the paper, especially the ones you disagree with, and you will see community members wrestling with important issues. It is impossible to boil those voices down to two clear and distinct camps.

Although it would be impossible to address the scope and magnitude of the responses that we have heard both in classroom and social settings around campus, we have done our best to accurately portray as many varying points of view as possible. Over 400 people responded to a survey on the topic, and we have presented their voices using their words. We have published some opinions that are not kind or politically correct, however we have decided to trust that all of those voices represent honest attempts to work through these issues. We believe that this type of trust should be the basis for healthy dialogue, and for that reason, those voices deserve to be aired. For constructive dialogue to happen, we need to give each other the benefit of the doubt.

We also need to acknowledge that many of us disagree about what the actual issue is. Around the office, we have struggled to label the events we're covering. It quickly became clear that this was more than just a "Mexican Night" controversy as community members drew on past Hamilton events, national politics, and their own previous experiences of campus culture; for example, some students saw it as a symptom of systemic prejudice, and some others saw it as a symptom of systemic oversensitivity. Each individual's entire life experience and the opinions they developed structure how they decide what is the issue at hand. If we refuse to acknowledge this, discussion will stagnate as people disregard how others are approaching the issue.

We need to acknowledge that the controversy is not simple one. We need to trust that people are making honest attempts to work through that controversy. And we need to understand that many of us have different ideas about the very nature of the dispute, as well as what is at stake. Doing otherwise will kill the dialogue everyone is asking for before it has a chance to start.

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The Spectator is a publication of the Hamilton College Media Board.

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THE SPECTATOR'S LETTER TO THE EDITOR SECTION IS DESIGNED TO BE A FORUM FOR THE ENTIRE HAMILTON COMMUNITY TO DISCUSS AND DEBATE CAMPUS, LOCAL, NATIONAL AND GLOBAL ISSUES. PIECES PUBLISHED IN THE SECTION EXPRESS THE OPINION OF THE INDIVIDUAL WRITERS, AND ARE NOT NECESSARILY THE OPINIONS OF THE SPECTATOR, ITS EDITORS, OR THE MEDIA BOARD. LETTERS TO THE EDITOR ARE WELCOME FROM ALL STUDENTS, ALUMNI/AE, FACULTY, FRIENDS OF THE COLLEGE AND HAMILTON COMMUNITY MEMBERS. NEVERTHELESS, THE SPECTATOR HAS THE FOLLOWING POLICIES FOR SUBMISSION:

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2. Letters should be no longer than 650 words.
3. Letters submitted anonymously will not be printed.
4. *The Spectator* will not edit letters for misspelling, poor grammar or diction.
5. *The Spectator* reserves the right not to publish any letter it deems inappropriate for publication.
6. If a piece is determined to be libelous, an unwarranted invasion of privacy, or an unnecessary and/or unwarranted ad hominem or personal attack, it will not be published.

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FEATURES

Time for Repentance, Daily Bull

The Daily Bull washes away the sins of their probation prank.

by Lily Gillespie '12
FEATURES WRITER

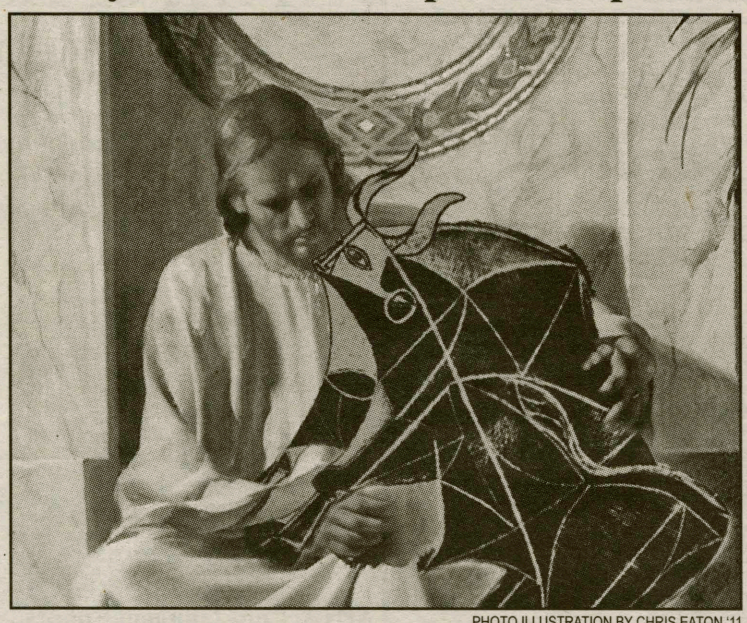

PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY CHRIS EATON '11

There is no doubt that the *Daily Bull* is one of Hamilton's most talked about, albeit least understood, publications. Each morning, you have the opportunity to confuse yourself as you read their bizarre and hilarious "stories." There are times, however, when the *Bull* makes it very clear that they are directing their humor at certain individuals, groups or publications on campus. Such an instance of pointed humor was what caused a heated response to their Feb. 12 issue. Although most may not remember this one issue, the *Bull* mocked the layout of the popular Spectator column Thumbs Up/Thumbs Down/ Who Cares. *The Bull* launched particularly derogatory barbs at *The Spectator* and members of its staff, certain fraternity members, and made pejorative comments regarding the Ghostface Killah concert.

The Media Board was not happy with the issue, to say the least. Eric Kuhn '09, chair of the Media Board, explained that, "The content of this issue tipped over the line between appropriate and inappropriate and further broke some fundamental rules the Media Board has…"

The comments regarding Ghostface Killah were in direct mockery of a joke that appeared in the Feb. 5 issue of *The Spectator*, which read, "Ghostface (White People) Killah on the Hill: Looks like that African Masks exhibit will come in handy after all," in which the Bull responded with, "BLSU Masquerade: Too bad we wasted our African masks joke on Ghostface last week." The original offensive TU/TD/WC joke was brought up with *The Spectator* in the form of a letter to the editor, to which an author of the column responded with an apology, admitting the joke should not have been published. In the case of *The Daily Bull*, however, accountability was a concern: at the time, editors and writers used pseudonyms, so readers and those mocked did not know who was writing about them. This lack of transparency is something some students, and the Media Board, took issue with.

"In light of this conversation with the Media Board, the Bull printed... that it had been put on probation. Some people were under the impression that this was...a war between the board and the Bull, when in reality, such a fight never occurred."

The Board also maintained that while the *Bull* was welcome to satirize public campus figures, mocking private ones was over the line. Both Kuhn and *Spectator* Editor-in-Chief Erin Hoener '10 cited this as a central concern. As Hoener explained, "A large problem with the Feb. 12 issue was that the *Bull* named [and made fun of] specific students without any prior notice to those students."

To remedy the situation and prevent future problems, the Media Board amended their constitution. They now require all publications to contact any private individuals who will be mentioned and for campus publications to be given some kind of warning if they are to be referenced. Publications must also display the name(s) of their editor(s)-in-chief.

In light of this conversation with the Media Board, the *Bull* printed in its Lenten Probation series that it had been put on probation. Some people were under the impression that this was actually the case and speculated about a war between the board and the *Bull*, when in reality, such a fight never occurred. The Media Board never issued a punishment to the *Bull*, leaving some a bit confused as to why the latter would say the publication was in jeopardy. Andrew Peart '10, editor-in-chief of the *Bull*, tried to clear up the misunderstanding: "What I'm getting at is that the 'probation' was a metaphor for the incredible amount of scrutiny and criticism that the *Bull* constantly receives, often with the assumption that the publication's right to exist is always hanging in the balance." Perhaps this is what gives the *Bull* its allure, the possibility that it could be gone at any point.

All-in-all, the most pressing issues with the *Bull* were addressed in a manner that seems satisfactory to those involved. Additionally the *Daily Bull*, and satire by extension, remain firmly ensconced in the Hamilton community.

Separated at Birth?

Eric Kuhn '09 and **Dave Steadman** '03, Associate Director, Annual Giving/ Director of Young Alumni Giving

Got ideas? Send look-a-likes to LMOON

Students Learn How To Teach English Abroad

by Hadley Keller '12
FEATURES WRITER

As the number of foreign students enrolling at American colleges and universities increases, it is no surprise that many of these institutions have strong programs in English for speakers of other languages (ESOL). But there are several things that make Hamilton's program stand out. Among other small liberal arts schools, the majority of ESOL programs are within the writing center. Such was the case at Hamilton until three years ago, when ESOL became its own full time program. Since then, the program has come to include much more than just helping foreign students with English. Barbara Britt-Hysell, the coordinator of Hamilton's program, gave *The Spectator* an outline of just what it is that sets the program here on the Hill apart from more traditional ESOL programs.

Like any other ESOL program, Hamilton's offers tutoring for students whose primary language is not English. And the tutoring is successful – as Britt-Hysell pointed out, "Once they come once, they stay."

HTTP://DORCHESTER.SCHOOLFUSION.US

But in addition to this traditional aspect, the program has branched out into the academic curriculum under the Education Studies Department. The department currently contains two classes centered around the teaching of English to speakers of other languages. Britt-Hysell noted that she "kept seeing kids going to teach overseas and thought, 'why not make a course of it?'" So that's just what she did.

In the first course, a 100 level, students combine class time with 20 hours of "field study" working with refugees at Utica's Mohawk Valley Resource Center for Refugees to attain Tutor Certification. The second course, a 300 level, is more demanding, and is usually open only to seniors. Upon completion, students receive ESOL Teacher Certification. The course is described in the catalog as "address[ing] the general principles of language acquisition and guidelines for teaching English to non-native speakers." Students learn how to develop a lesson plan using the TPR (or Total Physical Response) method, one centered around integration of relevant information and useful skills into the school lesson.

Their lessons are truly put to the test when, twice a week, students teach a class at the Refugee Center. As Annie Harleman '09, a current student in the class, noted, "it is the only course I've taken and done field work. Usually that's really only an option for science classes."

The fieldwork here is more than just research, however. Harleman stresses how "we don't just get up there and teach. You really get to know the students." Case in point: an outing to the bowling alley last week, on which Hamilton students accompanied the refugees in their classes. This kind of total immersion teaching method is invaluable to the refugees and immigrants, many of whom come from cultures and lifestyles unthinkably different from the ones to which they are exposed upon arriving in Utica. The Hamilton students are able to help them "become accustomed to a new culture so that they can fit in," something which Britt-Hyssel stresses is especially important to adults.

The Education Studies courses are clearly successful, with Hamilton graduates currently teaching in Japan, Thailand, Ecuador, China, and Arizona, to name a few. Hamilton students in the past few years have also been awarded Fulbright and Watson Fellowships, and several have become involved with Teach for America. But what is perhaps most telling about Hamilton students' ability to help immigrants and refugees are the words of the Refugee Center students themselves. Goodbye cards printed on colorful paper by the refugees on their Hamilton teachers' last day in the classroom say things such as "we are thankful, hope to meet you again," "we will not forget when we spend together in our class," and "may God bless teacher forever." Clearly, their efforts have paid off.

Hamilton students do not need to complete an Education Studies course to participate in SHINE. Contact Barbara Britt-Hysell (bbritthy) for more information regarding Hamilton's ESOL department.

FEATURES

What's Growing On
In Hamilton's Community Farm

by Katrina Raebler '12
Features Writer

The Hamilton Community Farm is making love as it spawns the second generation of community farm plants. From onions to asparagus, tomatoes to okra (this week's theme was curcubits and brassicas), seeds are being sown and green life is in the making. In upstate New York, spring is more of a theory than an actual occurrence. Friends of flowers and plants must therefore make their own springtime.

While the three-fourths acre farm site behind the Co-Op remains snowy and empty, at the zenith of the Science Center's 3rd floor in a bright greenhouse next to a room full of turtles, approximately 17,000 seeds have been planted by Hamilton student volunteers. The first seeds were sown over spring break and many still remain to be planted at events known as "Seed Planting parties."

In addition to planting, between 15—20 volunteers have been taught proper watering techniques and follow a watering schedule in order to keep the plants hydrated.

Linnaea Chapman '10 and Nate House '12 have replaced Chris Sullivan '09 and Andrew Pape '10 as primary caregivers to the plants and received the community farm internship to tend the farm over the summer. "I'm so excited and golly gee it's a lot of work. I'm glad that the farm board has faith in me. I'm excited about my efforts being rewarded and by seeing things come out of the ground and chowing down," said House.

"I'm really excited to have a leadership role in the garden and have more of an influence on how that turns out and to hopefully improve it," Chapman commented.

The Community Farm Board, which extends beyond the students mentioned above, meets every Wednesday to discuss the farm. "We're trying to involve more of the students and not just the managers in the planning and organizing of the garden," Chapman said. The Farm Board is split into different committees focusing on education, publicity, volunteer coordinators, and sales/farm stand.

Chapman and House encourage the Hamilton community to combat their cabin fever and enjoy the wonders of an artificial (yet always organic) springtime. Said House, "people of all walks of life should consider stopping by and checking out the greenhouse."

What's Currently Growing (Seedlings)

Leeks, onions, tomatoes, shallots, asparagus, eggplant.

What's Currently Germinating

Okra, kale, broccoli, parsley, brussels sprouts, kohlrabi, collards, cabbage, cilantro, cauliflower, celery basil, lettuce, swiss chard, cucumbers, chamomile spearmint, peppers, eggplant.

Background photo courtesy of Chris Sullivan '09, "Minuet Cabbage."

L$_1$ O$_1$ G$_2$ I$_1$ C$_3$ P$_3$ U$_1$ Z$_{10}$ Z$_{10}$ L$_1$ E$_1$

by Russell Marcus
Professor of Philosophy

Until fairly recently, many people thought of logic as the study of the laws of thought. All the basic rules of logic are supposed to be obvious, and they apply to all inferences and implications. In contrast, mathematics is the study of specific domains of objects: numbers, cylinders, differential equations. In the late nineteenth- and early twentieth-centuries, Gottlob Frege, in Germany, and Alfred North Whitehead and Bertrand Russell, in England, attempted to prove that mathematics was really just logic in a complicated disguise. Since 1931, when Kurt Godel published his two (in)famous incompleteness theorems, the logicist project of Frege and Whitehead and Russell has been considered a failure, though there has been renewed interest in different versions of logicism. This month's logic puzzle is a bit more mathematical than previous ones, but it requires no more mathematics than simple division.

The Puzzle

Once upon a time, the Hamilton College administration was taken over by a rogue band of number theorists intent on developing a new system of student ID numbers. The number theorists wanted the new ID numbers to have ten digits in which each of the numerals from 0 to 9 appeared exactly once. They also wanted each ID number to be divisible by each of the digits (except 0!).

Questions

1. What would be the smallest possible new ID number?
2. What would be the largest possible new ID number?

Bonus Question

3. How many new ID numbers conforming to the number theorist's constraints are possible?

Rules

The winner of Puzzle #6 will be chosen at random among those who submit correct solutions to Questions 1 and 2. Solutions may be sent to puzzle@hamilton.edu, or via campus mail, to Russell Marcus, Philosophy Department. Make sure to include your contact information with your solution. Any one may play the puzzle, but only current Hamilton College students may win prizes. If the winner of the puzzle is not a Hamilton College student, a secondary winner may be chosen.

Prizes

Prize winners receive a t-shirt or mug from Lulasail, home of the best philosophy t-shirts on the web, or from The Unemployed Philosopher's Guild, which also has a wide range of philosophy paraphernalia.

The Deadline for Puzzle #6 is Tuesday, April 14, at 4 p.m. All entries must be received by that time.
Visit our website: www.thatmarcusfamily.org/philosophy/Puzzles/Puzzles_Home.htm

by Johanna Pajak '09
Features Columnist

Cameras have become more of a ubiquitous presence in our lives than ever before. It almost seems as if every group of skateboarding dudes is required to have the resident dude-with-camera running behind them, and a brutal Sunday morning hangover is almost synonymous with a long morning of de-tagging photos that are, eh hem, unbecoming, to say the least. The reality is, this technology enables us to capture every moment of our lives, and we should embrace it, because we're not going to look this good forever, especially not when we're drunk.

But what about in the boudoir? While it is commonplace to be, or to have friends who are, amateur documentarians, what happens when documentary crosses the line into amateur pornography? There was recently a bit of controversy in the news over what has been dubbed "sexting" among high school kids. Apparently, right after our parents' generation figured out that you could take pictures on your cell phone, they realized that their high school kids could use this feature to take and send "naughty" pictures to each other. When I was in high school my cell phone didn't even having a texting feature, never mind a camera, so this whole phenomenon is—oh my god—after my time. But whether you're doing it with your iPhone or with a totally retro Kodak disposable, bringing the camera into the bedroom can be a tricky and sometimes disastrous affair. This week someone wrote in wondering about this very issue:

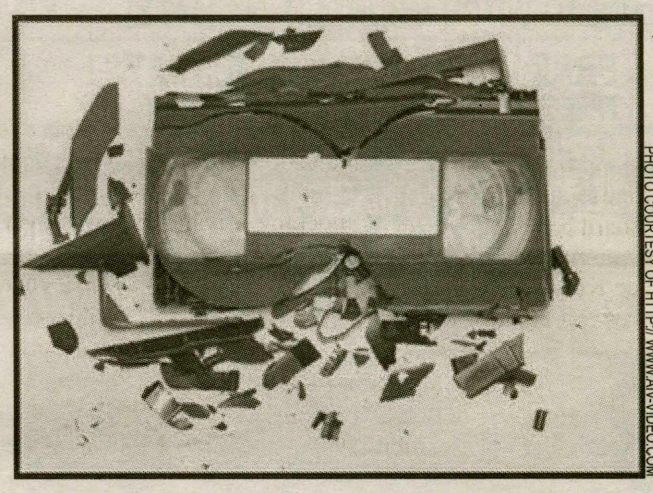

PHOTO COURTESY OF HTTP://WWW.AIM-VIDEO.COM

My boyfriend really wants to do the sex tape thing and I really like the idea of it but I can't help but be nervous about where it could end up if we go through a horrible break-up or something. Any suggestions?
-Camera Shy in Christian-Johnson

There are so many horror stories floating around about risqué pictures or videos getting into the wrong hands and becoming available for public consumption because, the truth is, nothing is really safe. Even if you and your partner both keep this material private, there are hackers, nosy friends, creepy roommates; there's no way to be completely sure that it will stay just between the two of you. Realistically though, if you're just a couple of normal people having some sex on tape, probably nobody is going to care. Perhaps if you run for office or become a contestant on American Idol and these things are floating around you might have a bit of a problem, but as far as becoming an accidental porn star, the probability is highly unlikely. I mean, I'm sure you guys are good-looking and everything, but really, there are people having sex all over the internet who really know what they're doing and, usually, it's best just to leave it to the pros.

If you're worried about a potential post-breakup revenge situation, just make sure you have your own copy of the tape, or even better, something potentially more compromising. That way, if he threatens to show anyone the tape, you can just remind him that you could just as easily mail your copy to his mother. It's not nice to think about, but it's good to be prepared. It's kind of like nuclear deterrence strategy. If everyone's got the power of retaliation, nobody will do anything stupid, you know, unless someone else does.

Please send your thoughts to: specbetweenthesheets@gmail.com. Names will be confidential, advice will be practical, and humor will be plentiful.

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OBSERVE AND REPORT ●1:00●3:00-5:00-7:30▲9:30 SETH ROGEN DTS R

DRAGONBALL EVOLUTION ●1:40●3:30-5:20-7:10▲9:10 PG

FAST & FURIOUS #1 MOVIE! VIN DIESEL DTS
●12:30●2:50-5:15-7:40▲10:00 PAUL WALKER PG-13

MONSTERS VS. ALIENS
IN DIGITAL 3D & DOLBY DIGITAL
●12:00●2:10-4:30-6:45▲9:00 STADIUM SEATING PG

THE HAUNTING IN CONNECTICUT
●1:30●3:40-5:50-8:00▲10:15 PG-13

KNOWING ●2:00-4:50-7:20▲9:50 NICOLAS CAGE PG-13

ADVENTURELAND ●12:50●3:10-5:30-7:50▲10:05 R

I LOVE YOU, MAN 5:40-7:55▲10:10 R

RACE TO WITCH MOUNTAIN ●1:10●3:20 PG

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Karibu: An Evening of East African Food, Art and Entertainment

by Lyndra Vassar '09
Features Contributor

This summer, 16 Hamilton students will embark on a six week trip to work with grassroots organizations in Tanzania. The trip is part of a yearlong seminar, Women's Studies 331/332: Field Study Tanzania, instructed by Assistant Visiting Professor of Women's Studies Marla Jaksch. During their travels, students will work with various grassroots organization projects in Massai and Hadzabe lands, Arusha, Dar es Salaam and Zanzibar.

As noted by field study participant Robin Joseph '09, "This will really be the chance to take my studies outside of the classroom."

In preparation for the summer, students participate in a weekly seminar, Women Studies 331: Grassroots Organizing. This seminar focuses on how social, economical and gender issues affect the development of Tanzanian culture and communities. Attempting to grapple with the complexities of grassroots organizing, students explore topics such as colonialism, globalization, HIV/AIDS, non-governmental organizations and the influence of Western donors on Tanzanian politics. In addition to course discussions, each student in the class will prepare individual project proposals for a program they'd like to conduct while in Tanzania. In previous years, students have proposed individual projects ranging from dance workshops and HIV/AIDS awareness programs to beading workshops and community building.

Apart from organizing these community projects, many of the program's participants anticipate being challenged personally. In an entry written for the course blog, Alexandria Dotson '11 writes "I am thrilled to be going on the Tanzania Field Study because I feel that this is an opportunity to not just see the tourist side of Tanzania, but to actually interact with the Tanzanian community on a real level. I am ready and excited to be taken out of my comfort zone and learn about Tanzanian customs, traditions, and a way of life totally different from my own."

While this will be Dotson's first trip to Africa, Laura Gault '11, a world politics and French concentrator, hopes to "revisit Tanzania with a new perspective on the role of tourists and Western NGOs, greater background knowledge of Tanzanian history, and the ability to speak a little bit of Kiswahili." Africana Studies concentrator Melissa Young '09 wishes to experience "more than an academic excursion" stating, "when and if I come home after six weeks, I just want to feel overly empowered to help cultivate change."

On Thursday, April 16, Women Studies 331/332 will be hosting their fundraiser, "Karibu: An Evening of East African Food, Art, and Entertainment" from 6-9 p.m. in the Annex.The dinner will include East African food, African dance and drumming performances, as well as an art auction. All proceeds from the event will go towards community projects including a development of a women's community center in Massailand, Hadzabe women's jewelry project, and the establishment of a women's legal clinic. This event is free to the public and tickets will be available for purchase next Monday – Thursday from 11-1 p.m. in Beinecke Student Activities Village. For more information or to make a donation, please email mjaksch@hamilton.edu.

EUROsim Challenge '09

by Kasey Hildonen '10
Features Contributor

In Buffalo, NY, "Turkey invaded Cyprus. ...Ireland jumped up, took off their shoes and ran out of the room," explained Natalie De Boursac '11.

De Boursac wasn't hallucinating, she was participating in the 22nd annual EUROsim conference. The invasion and subsequent protest were orchestrated by other students, there to learn about European politics.

The conference, which ran April 2-5, is an international and intercollegiate simulation of the European Union. It is conducted by the Trans-Atlantic Consortium for European Union Studies & Simulations, consisting of 22 universities and law schools from the United States and Europe. This year, over 200 students and facult adivsors from both the US and Europe attended a conference sponsored by Canisius College on the topic of counter-terrorism and crime fighting in the EU. 13 Hamilton students, accompanied by advisor Alan Cafruny, represented one of the largest delegations. They assumed the roles of the very prestigious delegations from France, Slovenia, and several members of parliament, including two Vice Committee Chairs on the Committee on Legal Affairs. Hamilton students prepared for the conference over the course of this school year through the Model European Union club. Students matched the high standards of their fellow participants, many of whom took part in the simulation in accordance with a university class. Students developed a greater understanding of the structure and politics of the EU through their experiences, and they made lasting contacts from other universities. Next January these students will travel to Antwerp, Belgium to represent Hamilton once again in the international arena.

Fulbright Grants & Watson Fellowships Awarded

by Kerry Q. Coughlin '11
News Writer

Over the past two weeks, the awardees of the Fulbright Grants and the Thomas J. Watson fellowships were announced. So far this year, five Hamilton seniors have been awarded these prestigious grants: Peter Mallozzi, Marie Piayai and Mary Daphne Kostakopuolos received Fulbright Grants; additionally Kenyon Laing and Austin Hawkins received Watson Fellowships.

The Fulbright grant is a national fellowship. With a Fulbright grant, students either receive funding to conduct research or are given the opportunity to teach English in a foreign country. All of Hamilton's 2009 Fulbright awardees received English Teaching Assistantships (ETAs).

Marie Piayai, a world politics major with an emphasis in poverty, will be going to Thailand with her ETA. The ETA is a twelve-month program that includes classroom teaching of conversational English, class preparation, and other school-related activities.

Peter Mallozzi, a music major, has also been awarded an ETA and will be traveling to Indonesia. This ETA is a ten-month program, where awardees will work alongside teachers in helping high school seniors with conversational English.

Mary Daphne Kostakopoulos, a communications and French double major, has received an ETA and will be traveling to Turkey. She will be spending nine months teaching conversational English to Turkish students, as well as explaining the United States to Turkish counterparts.

Fulbright awardees will continue to be announced over the next several weeks, so be on the look out for more Hamilton students receiving these grants.

The Thomas J. Watson grant is also a national fellowship. Through the fellowship, students partake in a year of self-designed research and study.

Kenyon Laing, a world politics and French double major, will be traveling to Sweden, the Netherlands, the Czech Republic, Turkey and India during her twelve-month grant. Through her project entitled "Traffic: Red Light, Green Light? Prostitution and the Modern Day Slave Trade," Laing plans to investigate the flow of human trafficking and how it is affected by attitudes about prostitution, regional relationships and increased international contact. In order to increase her understanding of the issues and to study them, Laing will be working with legislators, advocacy groups, journalists and sex workers.

Austin Hawkins, an art and French double major, will be traveling to Turkey, sub-Saharan Africa, Ethiopia, Portugal and Spain during his study of earth construction entitled "Earth Architecture: The Keystone to Reducing our Environmental Footprint." During his time in these countries, Hawkins will construct walls, domes and vaults using untreated mixtures of sand, clay, gravel and plants fibers in addition to learning about the place of earth construction in modern architecture.

"All of the candidates this year knew each other and supported each other throughout the process rather than feeling we were in competition," said Laing.

Bachelor & Bachelorette of the Week

Chelsea Stone '10

PHOTO COURTESY OF CHELSEA STONE '10

Hometown: *Niskayuna, NY*
Major: *Chinese*
Turn On? *Suit Vests.*
Turn Off? *Less than 20 percent body fat.*
What is your worst habit?
Late night raiding of the Dunham vending machines.
If you were a dorm which would you be and why?
Dunham... because I'm sturdy and durty.
If you had to describe yourself as the love child of any two musicians which would you pick and why?
Yo-Yo Ma and Jamiroquai..because I love Asia and I dance best to acid-jazz.
If you were God, what would be the first thing you'd do to the world?
Get rid of religion.
If you had to create a new points system what would be the #1 offense?
Budging in the hot foods line in Commons..not cool guys, I'm hungry.
What advertising slogan best describes your life?
"Where's the beef?" Sad but true.
If you could create a holiday what/when would it be?
Surprise Free Pizza Day..delivered when you least expect it but need it the most.
What movie genre best describes you?
Classic westerns, if Wes Anderson directed them.
What's the best pick-up line you've ever used/had used on you?
"Yo, I have a Dunham single....whatchya doing later?"
If you were a major which would you be and why?
Sociology, because I'm interesting but largely irrelevant.
If you won an award at an awards show what would it be for?
Single of the year....duh.
If you could have any super power what would it be and why?
Flying, because I think I'd be better at that than running.
If you were a cold cut, which would you be and why?
Bologna, because it's delicious but misunderstood.
If you were any social space what would it be and why?
ELS, because it smells kinda funny but everyone still wants to go there to get sloppy-drunk and weird.
If you could get rid of one group on campus what would it be and why?
Knit Happens..nothing personal guys, but you violated your mass e-mail privileges.
What would you say is your most attractive quality?
My outrageous sense of humor, my always easy-going nature, my staggering intellect..but mostly my humbleness.
If you could trade jobs with anyone at Hamilton for a day what would it be?
The people who work in the training room who get to drive the Gator around campus..I've always been jealous of that ride.
If you could break one rule at Hamilton and get away with it which would you choose?
Pets in dorms..so I could hang out with my puppies.
What would you give a thumbs up?
Tacit approval of public intoxication!
What would you give a thumbs down?
Getting kicked out of the pub.... repeatedly.
Who would you say is your campus crush?
MARK my words, I'm not particular, I just like the kind of guy who can keep things light and BREAZY.
Who would you say is your faculty crush?
The Bon Appétit guys who make me omelets at brunch and burgers at dinner..you guys know the way to my heart.
What is the weirdest thing currently in your room?
A Wolpertinger from my last vacation to Germany...google it, I promise you'll want one too.

Billy Wieczorek '11

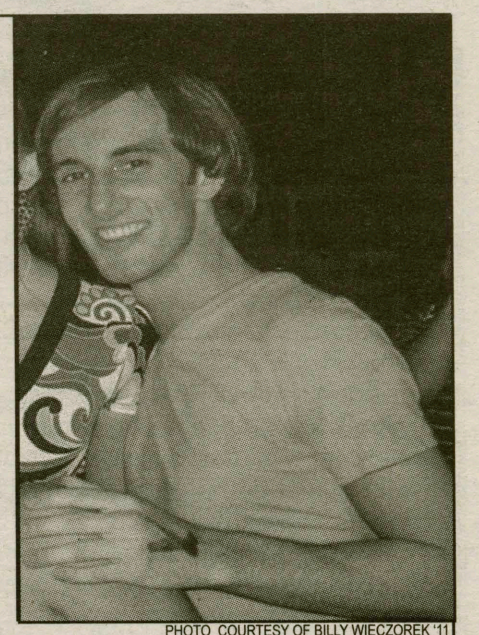

PHOTO COURTESY OF BILLY WIECZOREK '11

Hometown: *Buffalo, NY*
Major: *Chemistry.*
Turn On: *Bright colors, organic chemistry, having bangs.*
Turn Off? *Cooties, boobs, frowns.*
What is your worst habit?
Dancing until the sun comes up.
If you were a dorm which would you be and why?
Rogers..you probably won't go down there.
If you had to describe yourself as the love child of any two musicians which would you pick and why?
Beyoncé and Lady Gaga. I'm sassy, gay, and often dance without pants.
If you had to create a new points system what would be the #1 offense?
I've been wondering what'd happen if suspenders made a come back.
What's the first word you just thought of?
Heygirlhey.
If you had to create a new points system what would be the #1 offense?
Writing ads in sidewalk chalk.
What advertising slogan best describes your life?
"Sometimes you feel like a nut, sometimes you don't." (Almond Joy)
If you could create a holiday what/when would it be?
Perfect Date day: April 25- it's not too hot and not too cold.
What movie genre best describes you?
Disney movies.
What's the best pick-up line you've ever used?
"Is that a button fly? Let me try!"
What's the best pick-up line you've ever had used on you?
"I'm a psychic and I see you in my future."
If you were a major which would you be and why?
Chemistry....baby, it's what's going on between me and you.
If you won an award at an awards show what would it be for?
Most original way to say hello.
If you could have any super power what would it be?
Flying. We've all walked up from Bundy on a Friday night and thought, "Yeah, that'd be sweet."
If you were any social space what would it be and why?
The Events Barn: Ready for a quiet get together or a night out on the town.
What would you say is your most attractive quality?
My ability to make anyone smile.
If you could trade jobs with anyone at Hamilton for a day what would it be?
Eric Kuhn - I want to be the ruler of myHamilton.
If you could get rid of one group on campus what would it be and why?
As a friend of mine said, "Knit can happen without me knowing about it."
If you could join one group on campus what would it be and why?
Men's Rugby. It's good enough for Mr. Hamilton.
If you could break one rule at Hamilton for a day and get away with it which would you choose?
Going into Commons at night. My love for peanut butter and jelly sandwiches knows no bounds.
What accessory best defines you?
The girls whom I eat lunch with.
What thing at Hamilton would you give a thumbs up?
*DU... *wink**
What thing at Hamilton would you give a thumbs down?
Anyone who wears Uggs.
Who would you say is your campus crush?
Issy Fabian. Fly girl is a freak on a leash!
What's the weirdest thing currently in your room?
Men's sized pants. Have you seen the way they're cut?

[LETTERS]

An overwhelming number of letters were received by The Spectator in response to the issues surrounding the "Mexican Night" party. This is a selection of those letters, reprinted in their entirety. It is important to consider not only the merits of these arguments, but the fact that differing and valid opinions exist on all sides of complex issues.

I write to express that I am proud of how my fraternity brothers handled the public uproar caused by the invitation to Delta Phi's annual "Mexican Night" party. I am proud of my brothers because they responded with the maturity and integrity that everyone should hope to find being cultivated in Hamilton students. Although the invitation was created with no malice, the Delta Phi recognized how and why offense was taken. These young men took ownership of the fact that people were hurt and upset by how the image was perceived by members of Hamilton's community.

The Delta Phi could have easily responded by canceling the party or merely ignoring the complaints, but chose neither easy option. Instead they resolved that the party, a tradition of more than 50 years, should go on and that the community's concerns should be addressed. They stood up for themselves and took ownership of the situation. Brothers offered to meet to discuss the complaints; explained the miscommunication to the Administration; attempted to attend a vigil which never materialized; and risked hosting a party, open to the campus, under intense scrutiny and observation. The party was a success despite the boycott and impromptu "walk-throughs" by Deans Urgo and Thompson, Residential Life staff and various professors. The Delta Phi hosted a great party with no arguments or violence.

My fraternity brothers and I were reminded of a basic lesson by this situation: people perceive things differently because of their different experiences. Whereas I saw the invitation as a funny critique of America's illegal immigration policy (billions of dollars spent on giant walls and armed guards presumably defeated by a Trojan Piñata) cleverly employed to attract people to a party, others interpreted a harmful, insensitive message. This situation shows the malleability of communication which is something to be aware of and learn about, but not to repress.

Everyone can learn from this situation. We can learn that satire reveals the absurdities of situations and does not accurately represent someone's feelings. We can learn not to presume malevolence when race is mixed with humor. Most importantly, we all need to learn that fault for the harm caused by a genuine miscommunication (which is what I see this situation to be) lies with both the speaker and listener. I am biased, but I feel that these young gentlemen should be applauded for their response. I was proud of their conduct, maturity and reasonableness. The undergraduates of the Delta Phi demonstrated they are not a bunch of "frat boys." They showed they are good young men who seek to improve themselves and their community. I for one am proud of them.

Sincerely,
Scott Iseman '07

In the four years that I've been here, I have never been so frustrated or humiliated by members of my own community. At approximately 11:00 p.m. on Saturday night I finally arrived back on campus after having played a rugby tournament with the rest of my team at Fort Drum, NY. From the Little Pub parking lot I proceeded directly to the Delta Phi party in the annex. After enjoying a beer, I left the party with one of my team mates. I glanced down at my watch to see if the Pub would still be open, it read 11:30. I walked outside and up the annex steps and noticed a group of 4-5 students (what appeared to be) peacefully assembled at their promised place.

One member kindly asked if we would like to join the vigil. I replied "Sorry, we're on our way to the Pub." Without any hesitation that same person shot back "You're a racist." Racist? I'm a racist? My mother was born Elvira Garcia Fenosik and my father, William Paul Cortinez. I am a melting pot of Puerto Rican, Hungarian, English, and Mexican blood. More importantly I am a member of the Hamilton Community and I will not tolerate ANY attack on my membership to this community.

I WILL NOT BECOME THE PRODUCT OF A HAMILTON RACE WAR. As educated students, Hamilton is equipping all of us with the tools to intelligently fight oppression. The member of the assembly who called me a racist not only humiliated me, but also humiliated all of the organizations whom worked hard for 3 days in order to organize a peaceful campus wide protest.

I refuse to be alienated, humiliated, or threatened by members of my community. I insist on a community-wide dialogue about the ways we all carelessly oppress each other on a daily basis. The incident this weekend only demonstrates the continued ignorance our community has concerning the oppression of minority groups. Racism has infiltrated our campus and I refuse to graduate knowing that this is the legacy the class of 2009 has left.

Sincerely,
Stephanie Ryder '09

Is this letter defending the invitation and the party as innocent, or demonizing it as intolerant and offensive? Well, to frustrate all expectations, I'm instead writing some thoughts about the way the controversy was handled, with the hope of true reconciliation between the involved parties though dialogue that will prevent future insults not out of fear of causing further protests, but out of understanding and sensitivity towards everyone's feelings. Seem presumptuous? Then please know that I don't think I have any more of a clue than any of you guys, but I only offer my opinions for consideration.

In the wake of the advertisement for the Mexican Night party, there have been strong reactions. It seems to me that most these have been either overtly confrontational or dismissive. Fliers decried the ad as blatantly racist, with what I perceived (perhaps unfairly) as an implication that those throwing or attending it were racist. A protest was held directly outside of the party with some students harassing others as they walked in, yelling "don't go to a racist party," and one flier declared "As human beings, we have a moral obligation not to attend this party." Likewise, the fraternity offered an apology which those who were offended thought insufficient and indicative that the fraternity did truly not understand the extent of the hurt they caused. More than this, though, was the non-reaction of most students who simply wrote off the protests – get over it, what's the big deal?

Yet for all the posters, vigils, and apologies that emerged to win the opinion of the student body to their position, there seems to be an absence of dialogue between the two groups. This frustrates me because I think this painful situation results not from intentional maliciousness but from a misunderstanding, a lack of information between students on what others think and feel. A direct dialogue could alleviate this mutual ignorance.

Imagine if one of the involved parties, the fraternity or the protesting groups, had invited the other or the campus at large to a discussion. I image this being productive, the student body perhaps getting a more complete understanding of why the image was so offensive to some, to listen to them explain how it made them feel and understand their hurt, realize that this invitation is symbolic of many small such injuries that offend unnoticed by most of us, while the protesting groups would have been able to hear firsthand from the fraternity that they didn't mean for it to offend, are pained that it did offend, and were just trying to be funny which they now regret. I believe that after such a meeting Hamilton students will be more sensitive to repeating careless offenses not out of fear of punishment (more protests, a bad reputation, etc.) but out of consideration of the feelings of these other cool people they just befriended, and that those that were offended will not leave with any misconceptions about the fraternity members or those who attended the party. Such a meeting would have drastically different consequences on the likelihood of future insults and harm than polarizing the campus between two antagonizing groups.

Certainly, I fully understand the motive to protest, to accuse, or to think 'no, there's nothing wrong with this ad stop being overly sensitive.' When I get worked up I feel exactly the same way. I think the desire to see an issue one way is natural, and both sides have valid reasons to think they are right. But the situation is more nuanced than this. So there shouldn't be a competition to win the controversy, but a struggle to understand why it happened. What I'm suggesting, then, is that there is another way - cool headed discussion between the two groups. I guess I leave you with these observations of mine - please consider if you think they are right: Its very easy to dehumanize another group when that group is distant - whether it is Mexican migrants trying to cross the border or any student or group of students on campus, and that respectfully talking things out with others generally leads to good things.

Much love,
Steve Rowe '09

For more letters, visit *The Spectator's* web site: hamilton.edu/spectator

Having just returned from Arizona on a week-long trip of camping, goofing off, hiking and being surrounded by the otherworldliness of the situation along our southern border, I have felt very uncertain on this whole brouhaha. I sympathize with Steve that the situation didn't really get solved, as the actual offense quickly became a magnet for larger problems of intolerance on campus, and quickly ran away from an actual human to human interaction about what has happened.

I have seen some of the consequences of the horrible humanitarian crisis that is occurring along our southern border with Mexico. People are dying from systems that are forcing them to make a choice between leaving their homes to come into America through a war zone, or staying in dire poverty. People are coming to America through the most horrible conditions at the hands of human traffickers who routinely abandon, rob or rape them, not because they want to drive a Bentley. They are doing it so that they and their families can keep living perhaps with the hope for a better life. They are doing this knowing the consequences of their actions, they are doing it regardless of law, or danger and they are doing it because in most cases they have to.

I feel strongly that what is occurring in Arizona and all along the Southwest is a humanitarian crisis and that it is something we (as a community) know painfully little about. This past weekend I tried to steer clear of both the Mexican party and the protesters, although I know that in both groups I had close friends. I don't think that either the protesters nor the members of the fraternity want to vilify anyone, but I was wary of this happening. Perhaps it is my disposition, but I feel a protest outside of a party, though it will raise awareness that there are differing opinions on campus, does little to bring these opinions together, but in fact pushes them farther apart.

This situation discomforts me. I very much wanted to go to a vigil commemorating those that the border crisis has claimed, to stand in solidarity with others around this heart-breaking situation. I did not want to, however, have to do that at the expense of protesting a party. I know that those at the vigil were not all there simply to protest the Mexican party, I am sure some made their decision to go independent of the party's existence. I, however, felt strongly that I didn't want to be holed into either group, both of whose actions I found somewhat missing the point.

I know many people were offended and the protest and vigil was their response. I want to affirm the legitimacy of their feelings. And to express my understanding that the events they held were an equally legitimate expression of their feelings. I simply wonder if there isn't a way that we can express ourselves, educate others, and explore some of the complex dynamics the situation raised without making anyone feel ashamed or needlessly guilty.

Sincerely,
Jesse Stromwick '09

To forgive Delta Phi for their actions by saying "they didn't mean to offend anyone" is simply ludicrous. No one thinks that Delta Phi is a racist organization bent on offending the non-Caucasian population of Hamilton. Rather, the point is that Delta Phi didn't think at all. They were insensitive to the fact that their flier might be extremely offensive to someone who is/was or knows/loves an illegal immigrant. They neglected the fact that their flier might have been extremely offensive to someone who is simply Mexican, or furthermore, an immigrant from anywhere!

A Delta Phi brother told me that the party used to be a "Spring Break" party and then became a "Cancun" party, resulting in the "'Mexican" party we have now. How is that evolutionary tale an excuse for the offensive nature of the theme? Why couldn't it have been a "Mexico" party? That would at least be somewhat less degrading to the Mexican people considering that their home is also a tourist location and is thus subject to caricaturing by outsiders much like Hawaii is boiled down to leis and floral shirts by those who hold Hawaiian parties. The element of illegal immigration for this party was completely unnecessary.

In addition, this issue is not just a "racial" one on the level of criticizing Taco Bell for using a sombrero in an advertisement but rather, a "human" one. People die of thirst in the desert near the border cold, alone and hungry, abandoned by a Coyote all because they were trying to get to America to make money for their families. For a fraternity at a liberal arts college in the Northeast to trivialize their deaths for the sake of getting drunk is disgusting. It is not just we as "whites" who need to be more sensitive to "non-whites" but we as humans who need to be more sensitive and caring of/for other humans.

We should not respond to this issue with a cry of "EVERYONE AT HAMILTON IS A RACIST" because that is simply not true, nor is it helpful. This controversy calls for a dialogue on these issues, where students can learn from one another. I know I learned a great deal from the students speaking at the Vigil/protest which I attended. This event does, however, reflect a degree of racial/human inconsideration characteristic of the overwhelming attitude at Hamilton. Professor Mark Cryer said, "I realized that the flier was offensive, maybe just because I'm older than you guys." Perhaps Hamilton students need to grow up a little bit and realize that this institution is not the fantasy land of drinking and occasional class attending that it seems to be but rather, a part of the larger global community.

Brendan Welsh '10

On Saturday night, having spent a few hours elsewhere on campus I went to an Annex party, intending to enjoy the company of friends and a few free beers. I did not think about the theme at all. After half an hour I walked out the door that opens onto the pub to begin my journey home, and found quite a few of my friends holding candles and signs, one in particular read "I do not feel safe".

Safe? I thought. Why don't you feel safe?

My friends explained the political issues to a slightly swaying me. One friend volunteered that he was not even there necessarily because he objected to the specific theme of the party. Rather, he was there, because he felt it fell into a larger pattern at Hamilton of majority students laughing off and ignoring issues that hurt a smaller group of students.

Why did this friend specifically feel unsafe?

Because my friend is a homosexual, and in the locker-rooms, weight rooms, dormitories, on the fields, and the pathways of this school, in the home of athletic machismo, in the comfortable confines of the majority, it is still acceptable to call another male a faggot. The term is meant to make the person smaller, to describe them as feminine, weak and concerned with effeminate [and therefore trivial] things. This struck me hard.

I am an athlete and countless moments from my lifetime came back to me. The injured guy was "being a fag", the guy who messed up on the field was "playing like a fag", and the opposing players were faggots. What a terrible thing to be. And I looked at this friend of mine, someone who I have the up most respect for, and felt tremendously ashamed.

We were calling each other faggots, a viscous and derogatory term that one had to defend oneself against or be marginalized and belittled, reinforcing every day that a homosexual is a terrible thing to be.

Had I made my friends feel unsafe? Yes.

The issue the Mexican party raised was that a large body of students at Hamilton were hurt by the advertising image and the theme of the Mexican party, but the majority of students remained indifferent to this hurt.

Many people laughed at the Fraternity throwing the party, laughed at the seemingly dramatic reaction to the theme. Laughed and were comfortable, together, in the majority. We felt comfortable in the party ignoring the hurtful theme because we didn't have to deal with the people it mocked.

Emerging from that party to an actual group of my friends telling me that it was specifically hurtful to them was a powerful and painful experience. Why had I not fully grasped why this party was hurtful?

People often talk about race, sexuality and gender as tough issues because they open up old wounds. Though the pains these issues can raise are rooted in the past, the reality is someone laughing at one's culture in a place where one is already clearly apart from the majority is a new wound. Every time.

Standing in front of my friends, ashamed, I just wanted to bring the people partying and the people protesting together and say, "This is me, these are the people inside, these are the people outside. Many of us are already friends, a community, and if a few members of a community are hurt by something, can't we show the compassion for them to stand and treat them as people deserving of respect in the course of an open dialogue? Instead of forcing people to choose between partying and protesting, cant we just talk?"

We have to engage these issues, as a community, without depersonalizing them. What happened on Saturday was that a larger political issue became a battleground and a sounding board for a more important issue, one of students being personally hurt by the actions and words of other students, and we cant let that happen. We must deal with fellow students in personalized space, not in social or numerical categories. I feel sorry for both the people that were hurt by the party and the people who felt villainized for being indifferent to injuries, that because of a lack of dialogue, they did not really understand.

Don't forget these issues, do your best to talk about the party with your friends [the more indifferent the better], understanding is the only way we can move forward as a community.

Jack Dunn '10

The boycott was a cut and dry case of hypersensitivity and moral indignation run amok. While the person(s) who organized the event seemed genuinely concerned about racial issues I believe that their assumptions concerning the nature of the event were misplaced. In preaching open-mindedness and tolerance towards all credos, the boycott organizers and sympathizers showed a shocking amount of dogmatism. Namely, several members and friends of the fraternity provided explanations of this theme party's origins and of the goals and concerns of Delta Phi and were either ignored or personally attacked.

In line with this hard-line approach to the supposed defense of racial tolerance, I recently learned that the boycott organizers video-taped patrons as they entered the party. I can only imagine that this video tape will be used for attempted pubic shaming of party-goers. I find this to be a despicable action. For a group which espouses tolerance this is highly inappropriate. The boycott organizers seem to assume that their viewpoint is inherently correct and thus they feel justified in harassing those whose opinions do not jive with their own.

This attitude has a name: Fundamentalism. While it is important to address racial issues, this zero-tolerance approach to activism is harmful. Rather than creating sympathy for the cause, it breeds indifference. When every mention of racial differences from the insidious and disgusting to the harmless and comedic are attacked with equal fervor, the silent majority loses sympathy for the activists and their cause. In this particular case, the actions of the boycott organizers have done little but raise the ire of a significant population of students past and present.

The ironic fact is that the bulk of these students agree that racism is the haunt of feckless cowards. Thus, many like-minded individuals are alienated by the tactics rather than the message of concerned activists. Therefore, this brand of hypersensitive, crypto-fundamentalist activism is counterproductive and creates more apathy than concern.

Louis Vaickus '05

This letter was initially presented before the faculty meeting on April 7, 2009.

The students assembled here are conerned not only about Delta Phi's invitation to "Mexican Night," but also about the Administration's response to our concerns. The passivity and neutrality of the administration's response polarized the student body and increased the hostility we face here every day. We ask you, as our professors, to take time at today's meeting to address this issue, to hold the administration accountable, and to facilitate the forward movement of our community.

A number of concerned students who felt hurt and targeted by the Delta Phi's invitation to "Mexican Night" issued a complaint to the administration. We pointed out that the party violated the second section of the Code of Student Conduct which states: "Respect for Others: Community members are encouraged to treat all people with respect without regards to race, religion, ethnicity, national origin, gender or gender identity, sexual or affectional orientation, political view, physical abilities, age or intelligence. Such respect for one another promotes free and open inquiry, independent thought and mutual understanding." We therefore asked that the party be canceled and, even more important, that the administration "begin to pursue appropriate response via the Judicial Board."

We were shocked by Acting President Urgo's initial response in which he requested "that those who have cited the offensive nature of the image disseminated by Delta Phi meet with the members of the fraternity to discuss the image and its effect on the community." It is inappropriate and insensitive to require those subjected to harassment and hatred, especially when they are concerned for their personal safety (which we were), to explain to the purported perpetrator their perceived wrong. Rather, as the college's harassment and sexual misconduct procedures suggest, we expected an officer of the school to meet with us and then begin an investigation.

Acting President Urgo has not, even now, initiated the proper procedures. Instead, he has simply changed the subject. His all campus e-mail "Community Dialogue" dilutes the discussion of our specific complaint to a generic discussion of "the ways in which social events are advertised" and of routine "vulgarity and insensitivity." The e-mail further suggests that we, as complaintants, are the main hindrance to the dialogue.

The e-mail did not allude to any action on the administration's part in response to our complaint other than quoting the apology issued by the franternity. When asked how he planned to move forward on the complaint Acting President Urgo answered simply and entirely "Robyn, have you seen the all campus e-mail that went out this morning?" We view this as a refusal to address our individual complaints as an act of disrespect and feel disillusioned with an institution that purports commitment to its students.

Although we agree with Acting President Urgo that "failure to conduct open, face-to-face dialogue only polarizes us," we feel that the way he uses it in his email and in individual conversations with us targets us as the source of the problems rather than the victims.

While extremely disappointed and disillusioned with the response of our administration, we would like to thank the many professors, students, and staff who gave up their Saturday night to join us in speaking out against hatred and ignorance at Hamilton.

We hope that you share our concerns and believe that you, as professors, should lead the discussion of the invitation and the proper response of the administration, and initiate the movement forward. The administration has proven to us their inability to host this conversation and their suggestion that Delta Phi "take the lead in fostering a discussion" is profoundly disrespectful.

Please take the time today to pass a motion laying concrete plans for moving forward. We hope that you, either as a body, a group of individuals, or with the aid of an outside organization, will facilitate some event and further discussion that addresses these issues by the end of the semester.

Thank you,
Corrine Bancroft '09
As one of the concerned students

[voices]

The "Mexican Night" party has been a catalyst for campus-wide debate. *The Spectator* conducted a survey to gauge the community's reaction to these events. This is a sampling of responses; it is designed to inform the campus of a wide variety of opinions and beliefs. We hope to better equip the community to discuss these contentious issues.

In general, do you find the Hamilton community to be apathetic towards issues of diversity?

Apathetic is the wrong term. Ignorant is better. | **In the past, I have found Hamilton's response to racist events extremely apathetic, and I'm really proud that people are finally becoming passionate about such issues.** | To be honest, the majority of Hamilton College is made up of upper-middle-class white kids. When choosing a college, and one of your top priorities was to have a college campus diverse, Hamilton was certainly not at the top of your list. | **Not at all - my mailbox is flooded with social justice initiatives.** | The Hamilton community often tries so hard to promote "diversity" that it simultaneously attacks everything related to white middle-class American culture. For example, it offends the campus that an organization holds a Mexican party, but no one complains about a Farm Party that displays rural whites as ignorant and drunkards or a St. Patrick's Day party that displays Irish-Americans the same way. | YES. | Not at all. Most Hamilton students are very conscious of diversity-related issues. | ***Definitely! People like to think that Hamilton is not diverse at all - we place ourselves of being white upper class individuals and fail to see the differences between individuals on campus.*** | No. Political correctness has been taken to the extreme in our culture. The Mexican party should have been a minor issue, but everyone loves drama. | *I increasingly find myself apathetic toward the approach that the Hamilton community takes to "discussing" issues of diversity.* | I DO NOT FIND IT APATHETIC AT ALL. | Yes! it seems like no one cares! | **No. Apathetic is far too strong a term. Ignorant, yes. Insensitive, sometimes unintentionally.** | We're not a bunch of racists by any means, but most people aren't as sensitive as they could be. | **Diversity is all the school talks about. I'm pretty sure we're into it.** |

If people think racist jokes are funny, then go share them with your racist friends.

I have one question: Why is the Womyn's Center so interested in fighting the immigration issue? Where are they when a Greek society throws the annual Red Light District Party? How about Golf Pros and Tennis Hoes? Pimps and Hoes? The list goes on, I assure you.

There is nothing wrong with a party with a Mexican theme. There is something very wrong with the way this party was advertised.

I find the phrase "Culture of Outrage" to be a good description of the problem. People need to reflect before they act.

Did you find the original "Mexican Night" party invitation offensive?

58.7% responded "No"
41.3% responded "Yes"

Data compiled from 402 survey responses

My experience has been that white students at Hamilton get away with murder up here.

Someone needs to stand up against the SJI. They are not representative of the rest of campus. Agree with them or not, it is shocking how so few people have been able to dominate the discourse on any topic involving diversity - and shocking how they have been able to get away with their tactic of publicly crucifying those who disagree with them with a variety of epithets (racists, chauvinists, homophobes, etc.). Remember what they tried to do when *The Spectator* didn't publish the SJI's letter to the editor? That is the future of a Hamilton where the SJI is so powerful. People have to start acting reasonably.

I think SJI is a noble group who upholds good values, but they mishandled this particular situation.

Students on both sides of the issue need to remember in the future to think clearly about how their actions might be perceived by others as intolerant of diversity.

I will never take a course with Professor Franklin after his e-mail. Racism works both ways.

We don't need to do a vigil. Or, you're mad at the face that it's a Mexican party, in which case you should be holding nightly vigils outside of Tex Mex as well.

There was this one girl outside of the party screaming about saving my soul. Thank god for the 151, or that would have SLAYED my buzz

We MUST keep a conversation going that reaches across racial lines.

This has nothing to do with racial tolerance or diversity. This is the United States, a sovereign nation, and we have the right to protect our borders and create our own immigration policies. If you really want to get into the United States, do it the legal way.

What about a protest for The Farm Party? Did you know over 700 farmers/ranchers die yearly trying to make an honest wage (according to the national safety council)? How could Chi Psi be so fiendishly ignorant to discount those Americans' deaths and simplify the serious issue to straw, country music, and flannel? And where is the protest to every party that includes alcohol? Call me callous, but alcohol (related to the national deaths of around 85,000 annually and the numerous close calls every weekend on this very campus) seems to be a far greater threat than a picture of a pinata.

Hamilton is the epicenter of ultra-tolerance and kumbaya policies.

The school needs to relax and save its protesting for things that matters, like G Road being closed for Class and Charter Day

I think everyone needs to chill the fk out.**

As a white male from the American upper class I'm comfortably confident that anything I have to contribute on the matter will be received as carrying an implicit note of racism.

Students need to be willing to engage in discussion. Both sides need to stop being defensive and listen to other points of view. Understand that it is ignorance most days that make people act the way they do, not revenge or hate. Both need to learn from each others' experiences. That is part of the reason we are in college.

[Untitled @ Large] is a club which students use to receive recognition and funding from Student Assembly for student-developed/produced theatre projects. The Untitled @ Large all-campus e-mail declared this campus organization a part of the boycott spoke for all its members without asking for its members' opinions. An Untitled @ Large officer sent the e-mail and in effect made it sound as though all students involved in student-theatre felt united about the issue. As a member of Untitled @ Large, I assure you this is not true - I was unhappy with the assumptions the e-mail made, especially considering most people outside the club do not understand enough about how the club works to deduce that all the club's members could not have approved the all-campus e-mail.

What actions if any do you think the administration needs to take as a result of the weekend's events?

The administration needs to do a better job of supporting the students who do not feel safe or respected. | I think that the administration should make it required for students to do at least one significant volunteer activity before they graduate. They should have the option of participating in Project Shine or in No More Deaths or some other program that will force them to gain some perspective. We are the people who will someday be out in the world making important decisions. I see it as a disservice to the world and a failure on the part of Hamilton if students are graduating just as narrow-minded as they were when they got here. | *They did everything they could.* | **Stop the meaningless dialogue chatter. It's patronizing.** | Professor Franklin's campus-wide email should be addressed. I'm not saying his privileges need to be revoked, or anything like that, but for him to speak for the entire Hamilton Community and vilify the members of Delta Phi was out of line... In pointing to the vigil as a celebration of Hamilton's collective conscience and character, it demeaned and vilified those that have a different opinion. | *Leave the kids alone.* | **The administration needs to encourage an open dialogue between students who feel differently about the issue rather than creating an isolating situation as they have currently done.** | *We've heard from the acting president. That's as far as it needs to go.* | ***I'm not a student and even I know that the theme of the party was totally offensive and not within the college guidelines.*** | **Since it became an issue, the administration should have cancelled the party, hands down.** | Keep on ignoring the same (real) problems they've been ignoring. | *None. We as members of this community are all adults. If one adult has a problem with the other they should feel free to take it up with them.* | I believe that Dean Urgo sent an appropriate email addressing the situation. | Make up some rules prohibiting offensive parties. **Punishment. Point. Blank. Period.** |

In general, do you find the Hamilton community to be apathetic towards issues of diversity?

Apathetic is the wrong term. Ignorant is better. | **In the past, I have found Hamilton's response to racist events extremely apathetic, and I'm really proud that people are finally becoming passionate about such issues.** | TO BE HONEST, THE MAJORITY OF HAMILTON COLLEGE IS MADE UP OF UPPER-MIDDLE-CLASS WHITE KIDS. WHEN CHOOSING A COLLEGE, AND ONE OF YOUR TOP PRIORITIES WAS TO HAVE A COLLEGE CAMPUS DIVERSE, HAMILTON WAS CERTAINLY NOT AT THE TOP OF YOUR LIST. | **NOT AT ALL - MY MAILBOX IS FLOODED WITH SOCIAL JUSTICE INITIATIVES.** | The Hamilton community often tries so hard to promote "diversity" that it simultaneously attacks everything related to white middle-class American culture. For example, it offends the campus that an organization holds a Mexican party, but no one complains about a Farm Party that displays rural whites as ignorant and drunkards or a St. Patrick's Day party that displays Irish-Americans the same way. | YES. | NOT AT ALL. MOST HAMILTON STUDENTS ARE VERY CONSCIOUS OF DIVERSITY-RELATED ISSUES. | ***Definitely! People like to think that Hamilton is not diverse at all - we place ourselves of being white upper class individuals and fail to see the differences between individuals on campus.*** | No. Political correctness has been taken to the extreme in our culture. The Mexican party should have been a minor issue, but everyone loves drama. | *I increasingly find myself apathetic toward the approach that the Hamilton community takes to "discussing" issues of diversity.* | I DO NOT FIND IT APATHETIC AT ALL. | Yes! it seems like no one cares! | **No. Apathetic is far too strong a term. Ignorant, yes. Insensitive, sometimes unintentionally.** | We're not a bunch of racists by any means, but most people aren't as sensitive as they could be. | **DIVERSITY IS ALL THE SCHOOL TALKS ABOUT. I'M PRETTY SURE WE'RE INTO IT.** |

If people think racist jokes are funny, then go share them with your racist friends.

I have one question: Why is the Womyn's Center so interested in fighting the immigration issue? Where are they when a Greek society throws the annual Red Light District Party? How about Golf Pros and Tennis Hoes? Pimps and Hoes? The list goes on, I assure you.

THERE IS NOTHING WRONG WITH A PARTY WITH A MEXICAN THEME. THERE IS SOMETHING VERY WRONG WITH THE WAY THIS PARTY WAS ADVERTISED.

I find the phrase "Culture of Outrage" to be a good description of the problem. People need to reflect before they act.

Did you find the original "Mexican Night" party invitation offensive?

58.7% responded "No"
41.3% responded "Yes"

Data compiled from 402 survey responses

Someone needs to stand up against the SJI. They are not representative
Agree with them or not, it is shocking how so few people have been
discourse on any topic involving diversity - and shocking how they have
with their tactic of publicly crucifying those who disagree with them wi
(racists, chauvinists, homophobes, etc.). Remember what they tried to d
didn't publish the SJI's letter to the editor? That is the future of a Hamil
powerful. People have to start acting reasonably.

I think SJI is a nobl who upholds good but they mishandl particular situat

Students on both sides of the issue need to remember in the future to think clearly about how their actions might be perceived by others as intolerant of diversity.

I WILL NEVER TAKE A COURSE WITH PROFESSOR FRANKLIN AFTER HIS E-MAIL. RACISM WORKS BOTH WAYS.

There was this one girl outs screaming about saving my soul. the 151, or that would have SL

We MUST keep a conversation going that reaches across racial lines.

I think ev

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[voices]

The "Mexican Night" party has been a catalyst for campus-wide debate. *The Spectator* conducted a survey to gauge the community's reaction to these events. This is a sampling of responses; it is designed to inform the campus of a wide variety of opinions and beliefs. We hope to better equip the community to discuss these contentious issues.

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We don't need to do a vigil. Or, you're mad at the face that it's a Mexican party, in which case you should be holding nightly vigils outside of Tex Mex as well.

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What actions if any do you think the administration needs to take as a result of the weekend's events?

The administration needs to do a better job of supporting the students who do not feel safe or respected. | I THINK THAT THE ADMINISTRATION SHOULD MAKE IT REQUIRED FOR STUDENTS TO DO AT LEAST ONE SIGNIFICANT VOLUNTEER ACTIVITY BEFORE THEY GRADUATE. THEY SHOULD HAVE THE OPTION OF PARTICIPATING IN PROJECT SHINE OR IN NO MORE DEATHS OR SOME OTHER PROGRAM THAT WILL FORCE THEM TO GAIN SOME PERSPECTIVE. WE ARE THE PEOPLE WHO WILL SOMEDAY BE OUT IN THE WORLD MAKING IMPORTANT DECISIONS. I SEE IT AS A DISSERVICE TO THE WORLD AND A FAILURE ON THE PART OF HAMILTON IF STUDENTS ARE GRADUATING JUST AS NARROW-MINDED AS THEY WERE WHEN THEY GOT HERE. | *They did everything they could.* | **Stop the meaningless dialogue chatter. It's patronizing.** | Professor Franklin's campus-wide email should be addressed. I'm not saying his privileges need to be revoked, or anything like that, but for him to speak for the entire Hamilton Community and vilify the members of Delta Phi was out of line... In pointing to the vigil as a celebration of Hamilton's collective conscience and character, it demeaned and vilified those that have a different opinion. | *Leave the kids alone.* | **THE ADMINISTRATION NEEDS TO ENCOURAGE AN OPEN DIALOGUE BETWEEN STUDENTS WHO FEEL DIFFERENTLY ABOUT THE ISSUE RATHER THAN CREATING AN ISOLATING SITUATION AS THEY HAVE CURRENTLY DONE.** | *We've heard from the acting president. That's as far as it needs to go.* | ***I'm not a student and even I know that the theme of the party was totally offensive and not within the college guidelines.*** | **Since it became an issue, the administration should have cancelled the party, hands down.** | KEEP ON IGNORING THE SAME (REAL) PROBLEMS THEY'VE BEEN IGNORING. | *None. We as members of this community are all adults. If one adult has a problem with the other they should feel free to take it up with them.* | I believe that Dean Urgo sent an appropriate email addressing the situation. | Make up some rules prohibiting offensive parties. **PUNISHMENT. POINT. BLANK. PERIOD.** |

OPINION

Gender Neutral: Why Not?

by Jessie Brown '12
OPINION WRITER

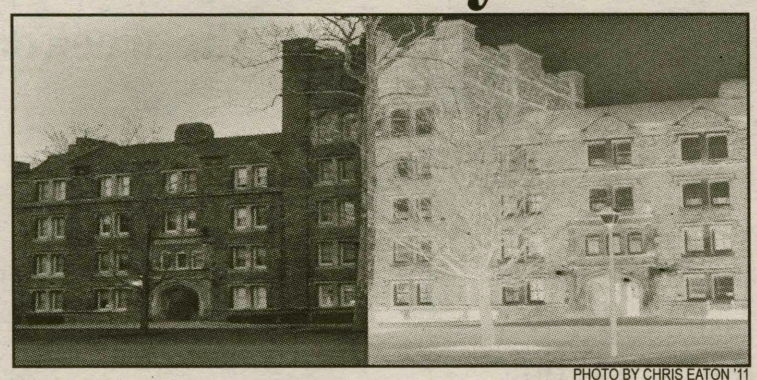


PHOTO BY CHRIS EATON '11

We have reached the point in the school year when it is time to decide where we will live next year and with whom. While it is possible to get a suite to share with friends of any sex, rules about who can share an actual bedroom with whom still stand.

According to the National Student Genderblind Campaign, the rule was "originally instituted to create residential environments free from sexual tension, it is now apparent that same-sex housing policies were, and continue to be, based on traditionalist, heteronormative assumptions about sexuality."

Now however, it is time to accept that fact that men and women can share a bedroom without any sexual activity occurring, regardless of sexual orientation. Forcing those of the same sex to room together ignores the fact that many students are not heterosexual. As Corey Prachniak, a former student at Georgetown, put it, "Putting a man and a woman together doesn't mean that they'll have a sexual relationship, and putting men with men and women with women doesn't mean that they won't."

The rule is also insensitive to transgender students. Let's take a transgender male student: despite the fact that he identifies as a man, unless he has had the surgeries to make him anatomically male, he cannot room with a male. This rule discredits his identity. In some states, if you have changed sex, you can modify your birth certificate to reflect that. However, if our transgender student does not live in one of those states, he cannot obtain any documentation that says he is male rather than female, even if he has had said surgeries. Where, then, would he live when he goes to college? With whom could he room?

Intersex students are ignored as well. The quick and dirty definition for intersex is ambiguous biological sex. Depending on the criteria, which vary from one medical expert to the next, between one in 1,500 and one in 2,000 people are born intersex. If your sex cannot be determined, again, with whom can you room?

Of course, this does not mean that everyone must room with someone of the opposite sex. As Jessica Carroll '12, said, "I think that non-gendered dorms would be an asset to Hamilton and its liberal arts nature. However, for those who want to stay within the typical gender norms, there should be options for both." The option, therefore, to choice with whomever one chooses should be available for all.

Letters to the Editor

God, Politics, and All-campus Privileges

In response to April 2's "God Does Not Play Politics," I disagree with Allison Eck '12's critique of the Hamilton College Republican's use of all-campus email privileges. In their March 29 e-mail invitation for the campus community to participate in Red Envelope Day, the College Republicans were not, as Ms. Eck described, "urging" or even "persuading" dissenters to join the pro-life cause. In fact, they politely suggested, "Please join us if you are interested in participating," and went on to list the initiative's website for any reader who wanted more information.

The College Republicans acted within their boundaries in publicizing this event through campus e-mail. While students earlier this semester utilized propaganda in their e-mails regarding the Israeli-Palestinian conflict to convince campus members to support their causes, the College Republicans simply offered an invitation to an open event, as they should have. There was no pressure to participate, and perhaps more importantly, there was no secrecy to the event. Publicizing the initiative opened up important ethical dialogue on this campus, and it may have interested students

see ***Letters,*** page 7

Thumbs up	Thumbs down	Who cares?
DU Commons Theatre: Because there's nothing like diving into a bowl of cheeseburger soup at the sound of a war horn.	No Class and Charter Day at G-Road: It's officially moved to Nancy Thompson's office.	Gamma Xi Jungle Juice Party: Where does an animal go when it's taken out of the jungle? GAMMA ZOOOOOOOO.
Passover: The lack of bread means the Manischewitz packs a punch.	Diner Meal Swap: 8-12 on Saturday night. Worse than the deal that America gave the Native Americans.	Campus tours: Yeah, it's snowing in April, but you're gonna cream your pants when I tell you about our inter-library loan system.
Dean Urgo: Drives cross-country on his scooter to beat up Chris Brown and profess his love for Rihanna.	Cathie Black, President of Hearst Magazine, will be our commencement speaker. I've never even *read* Hearst magazine.	The bagel slicer at Commons gets stolen: Just cause all the cool kids are circumcised doesn't mean you have to be.
Angry students demanding social change infiltrate faculty meeting, forcing professors to look annoyed as well as bored.	If end of the year work is making you depressed, take a break to watch *The Pianist* and *Munich* back to back on the movie channel.	Amidst this whole Mexican party mess, we've lost sight of the fact that no one actually planned to go to a D-Phi party anyway.

by Steve Allinger '09, Jason Brown '09 & Matt Fellows '09

Disclaimer: The opinions expressed in this column are purely of a satirical nature, and are not representative of the views of *The Spectator* editorial board.

How to Get More Bang for Your Buck

Your Goals for Attending Hamilton

by Jason Mariasis '12
OPINION CONTRIBUTOR

Some students don't really know why they're here at Hamilton. They blindly followed society's norm by deciding to go to college, so now they're investing $200,000, plus their time, plus their parents' time, plus the money they could be making in college without knowing what they'll get out of the education other than just a degree and possible future benefits. You may in fact be one of those students who spends money without knowing what you'll get in return, and if you ask me, I'd say that investment's a waste.

In high school you worked incredibly hard because you wanted to get into a "good" college. You saw high school as a stepping stone to college, college as a stepping stone to grad school and grad school as a stepping stone to the real world when really, school should not be seen simply as a stepping stone at all. School is the real world, and people should enjoy learning for learning's sake, learn to improve themselves and learn to understand and appreciate themselves and figure out their role in the larger world.

Now in college, you see school as a stepping stone into a "successful" life. When I asked students why they're here, the majority explained that college is somewhere people must go; it's a means to an end and a necessary step to succeed in life. Ask yourself, why did you work so hard in high school to get into such a terrific college, and why did you even want to go to college in the first place, especially a competitive and extremely expensive school?

You probably thought and still think that the college you attend determines the degree to which you're successful. Don't worry, though, it's not your fault that you believe this; it the fault of our culture. Our culture wrongly leads you to believe that you can only be successful if you attend a "great" college. But in reality, you can succeed (whatever that means) at any college. You will determine your own success, not the college. It's you who takes away what you want from the college, not the college that magically creates you. If you're highly motivated, you can achieve your goals anywhere. The name Hamilton College on the degree will only do so much for you; you as a person will create your own success.

Understanding that you can succeed anywhere, we must now explore why you're still attending such an expensive school. Asked as a question, is Hamilton actually improving you that much more than another, less expensive college, making your investment of 200K worth the extra return? Before you can answer that, you must figure out what you want to take away from college that will allow you to achieve your goals. Most students haven't thought about what they want to take away from college, but I sure have.

For me, I have set goals, I know why I'm specifically at Hamilton, I know what I want to take away from Hamilton and I know how I'm measuring to see if Hamilton really is worth my large investment. When I leave Hamilton, I want to be capable of thinking critically, writing and speaking persuasively, getting into a competitive grad school, working at any company and starting and running my own business. I want to be mindful of society and others, have new knowledge about the world and myself, and have leadership and interpersonal skills. Hamilton's liberal arts curriculum, with its focus on writing, public speaking, small discussion-oriented classes and with its environment that empowers students to make decisions and choices and encourages them to be creative, to explore, to think, to learn and to try new things will help me achieve those goals. I also want to enjoy my time here by making new friends, participating in clubs and organizations, attending lectures and sports events, and of course by taking part in Friday and Saturday night activities (whatever those may be!) where those memories will be part of me for life, and at Hamilton, it's easy to do all of those. Hamilton provides me with excellent resources and opportunities, more so than any other college, of which I try to take advantage.

After each semester, I sit down with my course schedule and write down next to each course the goals it helped me to achieve. I also write other goals I achieved in the blank space on the page. If I'm achieving my goals, then my time and money is worth being here. So far for me, my investment is well worth the return.

You now need to ask what your real motivation is for being here, whether you accept that motivation, and if you don't, how you'll change it. Create a preliminary vision of life if you don't have one already. Only then can you have a true motivation, set goals, and be able to measure how well you've accomplished those goals. And if you're not sure about life and what you're definition of success is yet, that's ok too. Perhaps you're at Hamilton to be around brilliant people, to learn about yourself and your interests, and to explore.

Stop being at Hamilton without knowing why you're at college and specifically here. Each and every one of you is here for a reason. Now, sit down and spend some time thinking about what that reason is.

More Letters to the Editor

see ***Letters****,* page 7

the cause but did not know of a way to voice their opinions.

The issue of abortion raises important questions about the relationship between politics and religion, but it is important to realize that when a religious issue begins affecting legal rights, it becomes a political issue. Then, it is not unreasonable for a political group to openly support one side of the argument.

The College Republicans addressed the controversy fairly by hosting an event in line with their political views (assuming the member who sent the e-mail obtained the group's approval before doing so) and opening it up to the entire campus. They did not limit their invitation to those subscribing to the College Republicans' or Christian Fellowship's ListServs, despite Ms. Eck's claim that the College Republicans "automatically assume that each and every Republican is pro-life... [and] every Christian is pro-life."

Like Ms. Eck, I will clarify that I am not commenting on the ethical aspects of abortion rights. I agree that leaders on this campus need to take steps to understand the purposes and rules of all-campus e-mail privileges, but this event was not a case of violation. In the future, political events should be more open to the campus community, and I hope this continuing e-mail saga will not discourage partisan groups from inviting campus-wide participation.

Sincerely,

Catie Ferrara '11

A Thank You to Hamilton, from the ABC House

Just before break, on February 28, the Hamilton community participated in a fund-raiser for the Clinton ABC program, which brings minority students to Clinton to attend the local high school. Spearheaded by the brothers of the TKE fraternity and joined by nearly every other campus social organization, the event raised more than $1500 for the ABC House.

This represents the largest and most significant amount of support given to Clinton ABC by Hamilton students ever, since the beginning of the program in 1972.

We are extraordinarily grateful for the efforts of Andrew Branting and Brian Mizoguchi in getting the ball rolling, for the enthusiastic participation of the other social organizations in making the event successful, and, most of all, for the terrific support the entire student body gave to the event. Thanks, Hamilton!

Sincerely,
Glynis Asu
ABC Board President

Robin Kinnel
Chair, Personal Campaign

'09 - '10 Thumbs Up/Thumbs Down Submissions
Due Sunday, April 12
Send Submissions to aeck & eklondar

Celebrating 90 Years!!
EUGENO BURLINO, OUR FOUNDER
THE "KING of PIZZA" SINCE 1914
O'SCUGNIZZO'S
WORLD FAMOUS, ONE OF A KIND PIZZA,
GOURMET SANDWICHES, SPECIALTY SALADS & SOUPS
FREE DELIVERY!
Hamilton College Specials!
LARGE CHEESE PIZZA & 3* WINGS & 2 LITER SODA $19.99 !!!
"Fabulous Focaccia Sandwiches" $5.00 Baby Size
Add Soup or Salad & a Drink for $2.00!!
"The Best" Homemade SOUPS $3.00 BIG BOWL w/Garlic Bread
Our Unique Fresh Specialty Salads w/Garlic Bread
YOUR CHOICE
$3.95 Small
$7.95 Large
Choose From:
Antipasto, Spring Mix, Spinach, Pasta or Marinated Vegetable
LARGE CHEESE PIZZA $8.50 !!!
34 Chenango Ave., Clinton
(Next to Dollar General) PHONE: 853-1111
WE DELIVER LUNCH & DINNER!
OPEN DAILY:
For Lunch, Dinner & Late Night Snacks
"BABY, WE'RE THE GREATEST"

Door to Door Storage Service for Students
• Canisius College
• Colgate University
• Cornell University
• Cortland State
• Hamilton College
• Hobart and William Smith Colleges
• Ithaca College
• Keuka College
• Le Moyne College
• Morrisville State
• Onondaga Community College
• Oswego State
• Syracuse University
• Wells College
notmyparentsgarage.com
Committed to Value... Dedicated to Service
The Sophomore Package
48"W x 40"L x 48"H
Contains:
• 4 - 24"W x 24"L x 24"H Boxes
• 4 - 24"W x 24"L x 16"H Boxes
• 1 Roll Packing Tape and Dispenser
• 100 Labels
$ 269.00
BEST VALUE
The Junior Package
48"W x 40"L x 72"H
Contains:
• 6 - 24"W x 24"L x 24"H Boxes
• 6 - 24"W x 24"L x 16"H Boxes
We Provide
• Materials: boxes, tape, labels, bubble wrap, etc.
• Insurance for all stored items.
• Security for your stored possessions.
• Tamper-proof tape is applied to all boxes.
• 24 hour security system at warehouse location.
• Prompt professional personnel to aid in packing, pick-up & delivery of your college possessions.
• Prompt, reliable pick-up and delivery scheduling.
• Local customer service personnel to answer any questions or concerns. It's as easy as calling 315-682-5705.
• Long-term storage is available.
How It Works
• Log on to notayparentsgarage.com
• Choose your storage needs. (We suggest the sophomore and junior packages!)
• Fill out the registration form. A $50.00 fully refundable fee is required.
• You'll receive an email in mid-April to confirm registration.
• Your packing supplies are delivered to you two days before designated pick-up date and time.
• Your storage items are picked up at date and time you requested during registration!
• Your storage items are stored in our climate-controlled warehouse while you are away.
• Your storage items are delivered at date and time you requested during

Students Compete in Legendary Film Contest

by Russ Doubleday '11
News Editor

Nicole Dietsche's '09 science fiction film treatment, *Anomaly,* has earned a unique post-graduation prize: a trip to Hollyhood to pitch her movie. Dietsche was one of five finalists selected from the numerous entries pitched their movie ideas to the creative team from Legendary Pictures in the Legendary Film Treatment Challenge on Thursday, April 2.

Dietsche described her idea: "*Anomaly* is a sci-fi action movie set in the future. Genetic anomalies, called Apathetics, are being harvested as infants and trained to be super-soldiers. When a small group of Apathetics discover that the project is about to be deployed, they desperately fight to save themselves from being sent into a dangerous war zone, and to save future generations of Apathetics from a similar fate."

Legendary Pictures Chairman and CEO Thomas Tull '92 sponsored the competition, which was open to all current Hamilton students as well as Class of 2008. The contest asked for students to come up with a science fiction, action adventure, horror or fantasy story idea. The three to five page treatments were due last fall. Ten students were chosen by a selection committee at Hamilton, and their stories were sent off to be judged by the Legendary creative team. This group determined the five finalists.

WWW.HAMILTON.EDU

Dietsche '09, a senior fellow, demonstrates her love of science fiction in her writing.

Dietsche has been working on this movie idea for a long time. "It took me a few months to develop the idea to the five page treatment that I submitted," she stated. "The project is still a bit of a work in progress. While the general structure is present, I plan to continue to work on the concept."

"Pitching my movie idea to the Legendary creative team was a bit intimidating and extremely nerve racking experience," Dietsche explained further. "I probably would have been fine if I was only presenting to the three judges, but having an audience made it more difficult."

For winning the contest, Dietsche will fly out to Los Angeles this summer. "[I will] meet with Thomas Tull, tour the Legendary lot and talk about my movie," said Dietsche. "I'm not entirely sure what happens to my movie idea [next]. I'm sure they explained it at the competition, but I was distracted because I was still trying to process the fact that I had won."

"This Legendary contest was an amazing opportunity," Dietsche said. "I'm so glad that I got to participate, and really honored that I was chosen."

The other finalists were Ryan Cadigan '11 with *The Hooded One*, Kyla Gorman '09 with *The Exiles*, Sarah Maas '08 with *Superheroes and Mary-Janes* and William Welles '08 with *In Fear*.

Unison and State: Road Trip Inspires Students

by Lisa Buch '11
Arts & Entertainment Contributor

In the summer of 2008, creative writing majors Rachel Richardson '09 and Kate Naughton '08 embarked on a 6,000 mile adventure through America's western backcountry on a creative mission. After taking 1,500 pictures, driving a few ten hour days, and consuming seven pounds of trail mix each, Richardson and Naughton produced a collection of creative writing pieces that addresses the landscapes they ventured through, the process of travel and the distinct natures of each state.

Starting in Richardson's hometown of Tulsa, Oklahoma, the pair traveled west to Santa Fe, and then explored Utah, Nevada, Arizona, California, Kansas, and Oregon, among others. Understandably, the vastness of the western landscape attracted Richardson and Naughton and sparked their creative processes. Richardson explained that she wanted to go west because "… there was something really grand about driving from the middle of the country all the way to the coast. I've always loved big, open, and empty spaces, and I think we both considered the desert a little dangerous, especially since we were camping, which was weirdly alluring—if you want someplace that's the antithesis of the Adirondacks, try Arizona."

Both Richardson and Naughton wrote most of the pieces for their projects retroactively, since traveling presented them with its own challenges. Naughton's collection of poems, "Unison," reflects on the process of living while traveling and her own interactions with the landscape. Richardson's collection of short stories, "State," draws on characteristics of the places she visited. She explains her inspiration, saying, "For me, it was mainly the land itself… I think the highways, and the crazy things we saw on the side of them, spoke for themselves… The trick afterwards was figuring out whether the setting I'd chosen was the only possible place where the story could happen." Her focus on the uniqueness of setting resonated in her story "The Visions of Sister Mary," which revealed the struggles of a nun living in Las Vegas.

Richardson's short story, "Trapeze," written about Kentucky, has been published in the Minnesota Review and has been nominated for a Pushcart Prize. She anticipates developing "State" into her master's thesis. Although she covers many of the states in the American west in "State," Richardson also included a piece on her own hometown of Tulsa, Oklahoma. She describes the work, saying "while the piece is obviously very personal, I think it also echoes everyone's eventual coping with their hometowns, families, and origins."

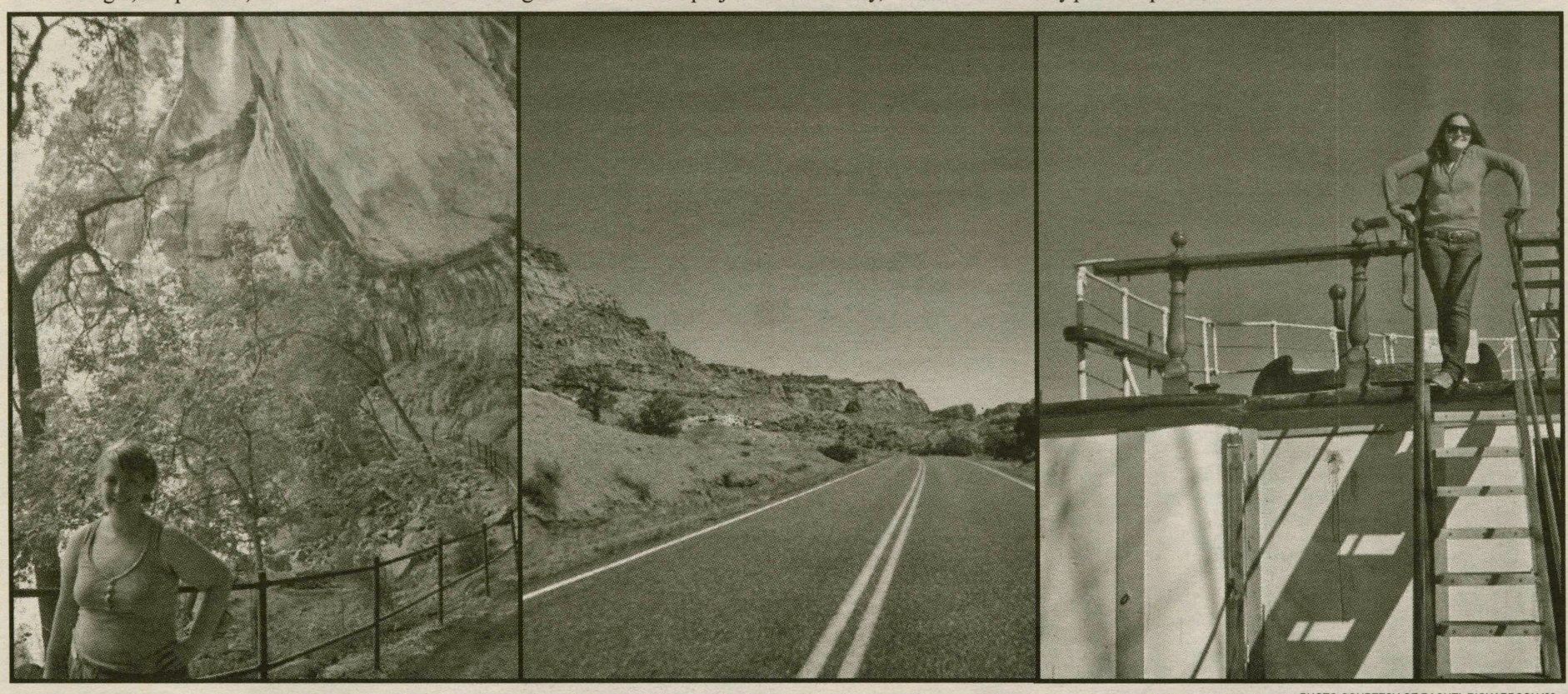
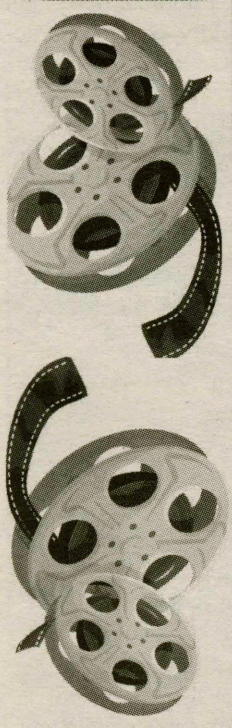


PHOTO COURTESY OF RACHEL RICHARDSON '09.

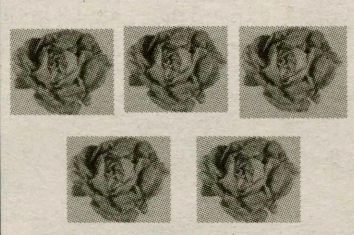
Rachel Richardson '09 and Katie Naughton '08 drew inspiration from the open road and the Western landscape to write stories and poems.

How Many Lettuce Heads Today?



by Joshua Hicks '09
Arts & Entertainment Writer

The Ten Commandments



Because I grew up in an extremely religious household, I spent many bored afternoons sitting around the house watching old school religious films. The one movie I can quote the most is one which I feel is appropriate for this Passover season.

Directed by Cecil B. DeMille in 1956, *The Ten Commandments* stars Charlton Heston as the adopted Israelite who appears to assume the throne from the true son of Pharoah Rameses (Yul Brynner). Anne Baxter (who you might remember from *All About Eve*) stars as the luscious Nile beauty who falls for Moses but cannot commit to him once his identity is discovered. He is banished from Egypt only to return to demand the freedom of God's people from the unrelenting Rameses. This film is clearly an epic, but a powerful story about the responsibility we have to humanity, even if it means leaving luxury behind. Moses gets five out of five Lettuce Heads for some pretty innovating plagues (I especially love the Nile to turning to blood scene!) Check it out this Passover!

The Greatest Story Ever Told

In the spirit of the Easter season, I cannot help but confess to you that *The Greatest Story Ever Told* is my favorite movie of all time. Not only did I grow up watching this film, but I feel that this is the number one religious film that removes all the glamour and cheesy lines that are standard and can be found in *Samson and Delilah, King of Kings, David and Bathsheba, Ben-Hur, Quo Vadis* and many other similar films.

George Stevens directs this 1965 epic, which takes place the great west. The film makes use of an overwhelming number of all star actors to create a three and a half hour retelling of the life of Christ. From the cradle to the cross on Calvary, we watch the prophecy unfold through miracles, sermons, and the passion (which is exceeding more than tolerable compared to Mel Gibson's famous film).

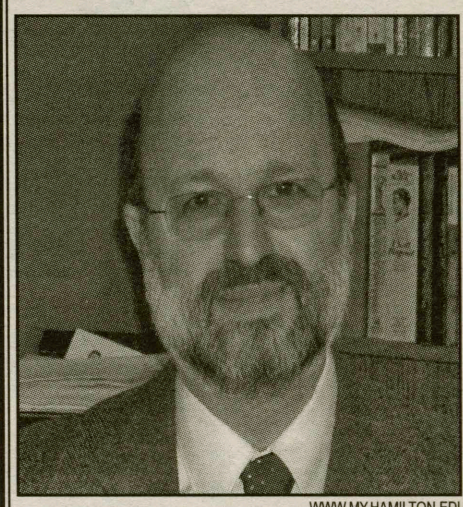
According to my Jesus in Film classmates from last semester, this film was the most boring of all the films we watched, to say the least, and the backdrop of the Grand Canyon did not adequetely recreate ancient Israel). At the same time, what this film does successfully for me is move beyond the cinematic eye candy of other films of this genre and explore further Jesus' message of love and respect, around which Christianity revolvesa. Steven's use of extreme lighting and shading also add to the mystery of this famous tale, and his overall work earns five out of five Lettuce Heads.

WHCL

DJ of the Week:

Dean Urgo

by Lexi Nisita '12
Arts & Entertainment Writer



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This is the first semester at Hamilton that Acting President Joseph Urgo has graced the WHCL airwaves, but it's not the first time he has had a radio show; Dean Urgo gained dj experience as host of a a show at his alma mater. Urgo has long-loved Leonard Cohen for his ability to "see the pain in what we call humor." Although his favorite genre is blues out of Memphis and Mississippi, Urgo enjoys everything from "the old crooners and the grand dames," such as Frank Sinatra and Judy Garland, to Rihanna's "Umbrella" and even the occasional T-Pain, when prompted by his son.

He also bravely admits that he enjoys musicals of the especially corny variety and that *The Wizard of Oz* is one of his favorite movies. On his show, Urgo interviews various administrators and tries to theme the music along with their jobs. For example, when interviewing Associate Vice President for Facilities Steve Bellona, the show's playlist began with The Beatles' "Fixing a Hole." You can tune into his show at 88.7 FM or on WHCL.org on Mondays at 2 p.m.

What's on his iPod?

1). "Interview" by Carly Simon

2). "Everybody's Got Something to Hide (Except for Me and My Monkey)" by The Beatles

3). "Paying the Cost to be the Boss" BB King

4). "The Stranger Song" by Leonard Cohen

5). "Fruits of My Labor" by Lucinda Williams

6). "How Can You Keep on Moving" by Ry Cooder

7)."Shut Up and Drive" by Rihanna

8)."Ain't That a Kick in the Head" by Dean Martin

9). "Get Behind the Mule" by Tom Waits

10). "Carissima" as performed by The Hamilton College Choir

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(Please call for appointment)
315.368.7347
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Clinton, NY 13323

Interested in Student Assembly?

Elections will be held on Tuesday April 21st for the following positions:

Class President: 1 per class year

To Apply:

1. Submit a signature sheet (see attachment). If you are running for President, you will need 50 signatures from members of your class year.
2. Write a platform of no more than 100 words explaining interest in what you're running for. Platforms longer than 100 words will be cut at the 100th word.
3. Attend a short, but mandatory briefing meeting on Sunday, April 12th in ELS at 5pm.

Signature sheets and platforms will be accepted no later than Friday April 10th at noon. Email platforms to egaston@hamilton.edu and submit signatures to Edwin Gaston, Box 721 in the mail center.
Have specific questions regarding your responsibilities if elected to office or the election procedures? Email Edwin Gaston at egaston@hamilton.edu

-The Elections Committee

The Student Activities Office is now accepting applications for our Summer Intern Position. Working for Student Activities includes learning the ins-and-outs of life at Hamilton outside of academics. We are looking for one non-senior to work in the Bristol Center beginning Senior Week through New Student Orientation, for 35 hours per week. The successful applicant should possess strong computer and organizational skills, good written and oral communication skills, a demonstrated commitment to customer service and the ability to maintain multiple priorities. Responsibilities will include general office management, revision and development of Student Activities publications, coordination of facility reservations and guest room transactions, and other summer projects as requested. Other perks include assisting in the Sacerdote Great Names Series, Trivia Night, and even booking entertainment acts on campus. If you are interested in joining our staff for the summer, please send your resume and a letter of interest outlining your qualifications and relevant experience to Lisa Magnarelli, Assistant Dean of Students for Campus Life. The deadline for applications is Monday, April 13th. For a full job description and more information please contact Theresa Gallagher at 859-4193 or tgallagh@hamilton.edu.Board.

Duelly Noted Brings Disney Magic to Campus

by Sarah Bingham '12
Arts & Entertainment Contributor

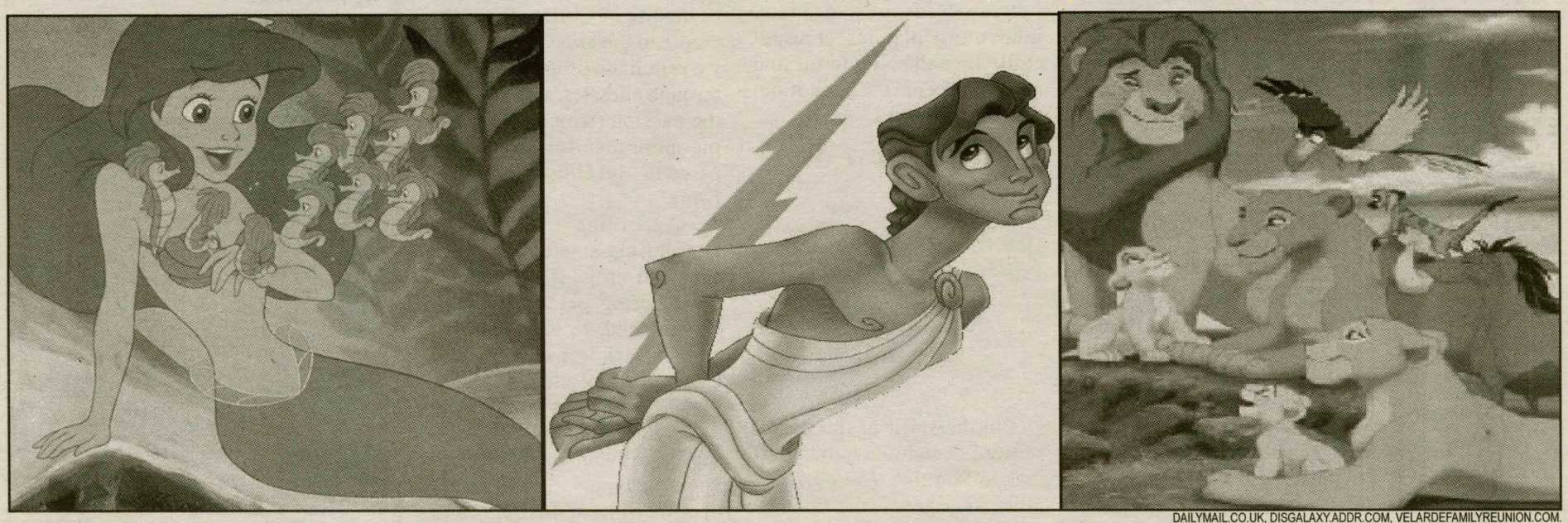
Sunday night, Hamilton was graced with the upbeat musical styling of Duelly Noted, the newest a cappella group on campus. Opening for the group were the Wells Whirligigs, from neighboring Wells College in Aurora, NY. The Whirligigs, an all-female group, performed a few classics and even more medleys, but also reminded us why beat-boxing is typically left to men.

Duelly Noted, however, took the stage amidst a flurry of cheering and applause, making it perfectly clear that the audience knew exactly the treat they were in for. The group chose to perform a smorgasbord of everyone's favorite Disney tunes, from the classic Mickey Mouse Club theme song, to T*he Little Mermaid*'s "Under the Sea," and even *Tarzan*'s "Trashing the Camp," an energetic audio-romp that was performed for the soundtrack by Phil Collins and N'Sync. But Duelly really held their own against these big names, bringing life and humor into every song they performed.

A crowd favorite was *The Lion King*'s "Can You Feel the Love Tonight," which really brought a musical theater aspect into the show, as it included the dialogue between Timon and Puumba—two very colorful characters in their own right – along with gesturing and pantomiming from the rest of the group. According to Duelly member Alison McLaughlin '11, these theatrics are one of the goals of the company. McLaughlin mentioned that the idea for the group was originally conceived last year, when the gang of then-freshmen friends wanted to create an outlet for their humor, creativity and incredible voices. The group came into fruition fall semester of this year when Duelly was able to recruit new voices, expand the group, and begin performing.

McLaughlin also mentioned that they have created an unusual government system: instead of having a president, they have what she called a "responsibility structure," which breaks up the jobs among the group members and allows for more equality within the group and more freedom to voice one's opinions.

Without this structure, the show probably would not have been as creative and amusing as it was. Audience members laughed as the group impersonated Timon, Puumba, Sebastian and other oddly-voiced characters. And why did they choose to perform Disney songs? When asked, the group's answer was simple: "'cuz Disney's awesome!" Watching the show, one could tell the audience wholeheartedly agreed that both Disney and Duelly Noted were indeed, awesome.



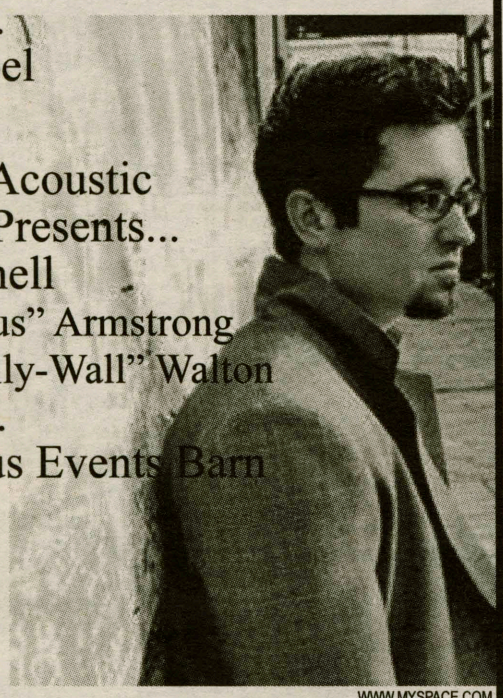
DAILYMAIL.CO.UK, DISGALAXY.ADDR.COM, VELARDEFAMILYREUNION.COM.

Duelly Noted sang some of the best of Disney's love songs, including selections from *The Little Mermaid, Hercules,* and *The Lion King.*

A&E Calendar

Thursday

What: Michael Ondaatje Poetry Reading
When: 8 p.m.
Where: Chapel



WWW.MYSPACE.COM

What: CAB Acoustic Coffeehouse Presents... Sean McConnell w/ Bo "Robustus" Armstrong and Linus "Wally-Wall" Walton
When: 8 p.m.
Where: Fillius Events Barn

What: SK Films
When: 7 p.m.
Where: KJ Aud.

What: Live Aid Concert: One Heart with Africa
When: 10 p.m.
Where: Tolles Pavilion/Annex B

Friday

What: Hamiltones Invitational Concert
When: 8 p.m.
Where: Chapel

What: Taiko Drum Concert
When: 8 p.m.
Where: Wellin Hall

What: Late Night Contra Dancing
When: 8 p.m.
Where: Fillius Events Barn

Saturday

What: SK Films
When: 8 p.m.
Where: KJ Aud.

Sunday

What: SK Films
When: 7 p.m.
Where: KJ Aud

Jal Recounts Story of Child Soldiers

*from **Jal**, page 1*

dan in the early 1980s. The first time the war came to his village, he "thought the world was ending." From that point forward, the war encompassed Jal's life. At the age of six, he was taken from his family and sent to fight in the rebel army.

Jal recounted stories from his childhood, before it was struck with war. He had the audience in hysterics when telling of a strange animal he came across while it was sleeping, one whose "asshole" was so big that a chicken got its head stuck inside.

"That was my last laugh," said Jal somberly. Soon after, an authority distributing food attacked Jal's mother and Jal was beaten and blacked-out when trying to help, only to wake up and discover that his mother had been killed.

Soon after, Jal was taken into the rebel army. Food and water were both extremely limited; for many days, the only source of water was the dew on the grass in the morning. The boys were afraid to sleep because "the sleep was so sweet that you couldn't get up." The circumstances drove many of the boys insane and many of them turned against one another. Eventually it got to the point that the boys had to eat one another. It was during this time that Jal said he reached the "lowest low" of his life. While sitting next to one of his friends, Jal turned to him in desperation and said, "I am going to eat you tomorrow."

Jal prayed furiously to God for food because he felt eating another human being was morally wrong. Hours passed, and finally a bird flew by and he was able to catch and eat it instead.

Jal was rescued by a British woman, Emma McCune, who took him to Kenya for an education. It was there that Jal began his career as a musician. He has now performed at Live 8 and with Nelson Mandela.

"Education is the only way for my people," said Jal. Jal has been eating one meal a day for over 120 days in order to raise money to build a school in Sudan in memory of McCune, who passed away in a car accident. Jal has already raised $85,000 of his $300,000 target. "The best investment is to invest in a human being," said Jal. "Emma invested in me and here I am today."

Jal concluded his talk with the performance of one of his tracks, a song entitled "Emma."
This event was part of the C. Christine Johnson Voices of Color Lecture series and was sponsored by the Office of the President and the Dean of Students' Office, with help from STAND (Student Anti-Genocide Coalition).

Recyclemania: Did Hamilton Fail? I Think So...

HEAG and the Recycling Task Force Must Expand Efforts To Increase Hamilton Environmentalism

by Saad S. Chaudhry '12
Science & Technology Editor

During the past ten weeks, *The Spectator* has been very committed to informing our readers about the national collegiate competition, Recyclemania, as thoroughly and accurately as possible. Early in our reporting, the Science and Technology section was vigilantly criticized for posting misleading statistics that lead people to believe Hamilton's ranking was lower than it actually was, and, since then, we acknowledged and rectified our score reporting methodology. But if you can remember what Hamilton's ranking was after the first week of the main contest in the competition, you may vaguely recollect it was in the 160s. What is it today? 153 as of week nine of ten.

Not much of an improvement was made at all during the broad length of this ten-week long competition (which officially ends on April 10 with the final scores). To be fair, there were some schools that joined in on the competition late. Nonetheless, it would be humiliating to argue that the increase in the number of competing schools after the competition had already begun should justify Hamilton's ranking through a relative perspective. We should expect our community to perform better than these late-bloomers because we had more time to get our campus informed of and actively involved in the competition.

But did the key organizations in this community, such as the Hamilton Environmental Action Group (HEAG) or the Recycling Task Force (RTF), do a sufficient job in effectively informing and engaging other members on campus to help Hamilton's ranking in the competition? More importantly, did they help to effectively instill a greater work ethic concerning recycling to help our local and global environments?

I asked HEAG Co-President and Recycling Task Force member James S. Beslity '11 to describe some events or methods HEAG explored to increase the chances of Hamilton's success in this year's Recyclemania contest. He replied, "It's important to keep in mind that Hamilton's Recyclemania program falls directly under the College Recycling Task Force's (RTF) umbrella of responsibility. As a member of both the RTF and Co-President of HEAG, I did my best to keep HEAG members informed of Recyclemania updates. Without a doubt, the most effective way to spread awareness about Recyclemania is through word of mouth: encouraging fellow students to recycle in dorms, in the classroom, and in other spaces and instances throughout the campus community."

Though I had known that the RTF was certainly critical to Hamilton's success in Recyclemania, it had not occurred to me that "Hamilton's Recyclemania program falls directly under the College Recycling Task Force's umbrella of responsibility." Perhaps it is because I had not heard or read of any effortful initiatives taken by RTF, but then there is only so much an organization consisting solely of five students and one non-student manager, Terry Hawkridge. Still, if RTF really does directly carry responsibility for Hamilton's Recyclemania program, then more noticeable improvement and advertising should be expected.

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Paid members of Reycling Task Force reduced use of waste buckets with "Can the Can."

Also, the fact that all members of RTF are paid (as implied by the all-campus e-mail recently sent out with respect to available positions for next year) makes one wonder whether the spirit of Recyclemania is actually present at Hamilton: should the bulk of the responsibility be given to a paid organization managed by a non-student? I believe this is indeed a subjective question, but something that should be considered nonetheless.

I next asked Beslity if there were any events or methods that HEAG wanted to explore this year but couldn't due to budget or time constraints; he replied, "I had been personally exploring the possibility of HEAG sponsoring a Recyclemania Information Session, particularly after the incorrect information about the program was published in *The Spectator*. However, after *The Spectator* printed their retraction and the RTF had their letter to the editor published that explained the intricacies of the ranking systems, I didn't believe such an event was necessary."

Interestingly, in his response to my first question, Beslity praised oral communication as superior for increasing attractions towards the Recyclemania competition. And yet, he still managed to brush off a potentially successful event regardless of the fact that it would have been founded on oral communication, and he does this because of a couple of pieces in the "Letters to the Editor" section.

Even worse, HEAG had begun exploring the idea of the Recyclemania Information Session after the reporting error was made in *The Spectator*. This indicates the intention for the information session would have been completely escapist in that it would have been more focused on the complexity of the competition's scoring rather than on the goals and the spirit the competition is attempting to bring forward. Thus, the information session would have put people more at ease about Hamilton's ranking, rather than causing a passionate stimulation of objectivism.

However, there were two key ways the Recycling Task Force demonstrated genuine effort for increasing recycling in the Hamilton community. First, they initiated "Can the Can." Can the Can is a waste reduction program where the waste baskets in certain buildings are either made smaller or eliminated all together, in order to increase the recycling of white paper, which makes up 95 percent of office waste. Second, they created a strong network with Bon Appetit in which they helped regulate the proper sorting of waste.

Though it is disappointing to see Hamilton's success in Recyclemania continuously declining every year since the first year we competed in 2005, we certainly have the potential to turn things around. I say this because we have a highly-populated organization such as HEAG which could incite enough interest to make the process successful. The problem is that many, if not most of these members are inactive—they like the idea of environmentalism, but they just haven't been stimulated enough to actually engage in activities that can bring concrete change. One such activity, for instance, could be a bluegrass rally. Considering how much a greatly smaller organization, the Social Justice Initiative (SJI), has accomplished through multiple protests and lectures, it is difficult to think why HEAG couldn't run the show on an even bigger stage.

In the end, I feel I must say that if we want success in environmentalism, the time has come to stop using excuses to find excuses, such as a competition's ranking methodology, for poor performance. The time has come to stop dreaming in a cozy dreamy world of escapism. It has come time to stop expecting good from difficult places without working like hell for it. And the time has come to stop, look at ourselves, critique ourselves, and improve ourselves, for only then can we improve our environment.

Autism Awareness Month: Why Autism Matters Today

by Elijah LaChance '10
Science & Technology Editor

"There is static in my brain."

"I search for a word in one drawer in me, but it's in another one."

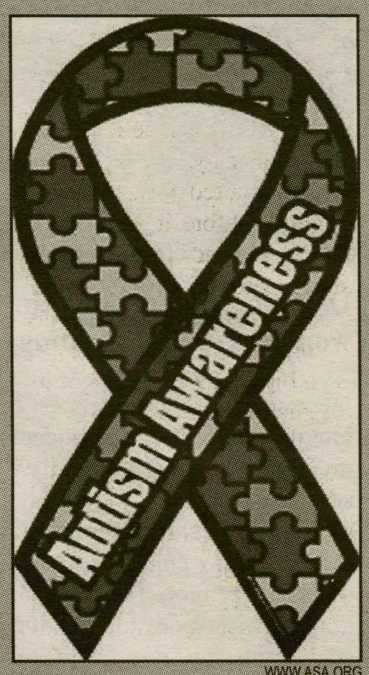
"My body will listen to my mind, but not for specifics. It's jerky, like a bad movie."

"I understand everything, but I can speak nothing."

"There are bees everywhere in my mind. They buzz and buzz. I can't concentrate. I can't think."

"People talk to me, but I can't tell what they feel. They say my face says things I don't feel."

"My voice won't work the way I want it."



WWW.ASA.ORG

These are descriptions of autism from people who have the disorder. According to the Autism Society of America, "autism is a complex developmental disability that typically appears during the first three years of life and affects a person's ability to communicate and interact with others. Autism is defined by a certain set of behaviors and is a 'spectrum disorder' that affects individuals differently and to varying degrees."

The reality is much scarier than this technical definition sounds. Just imagine not being able to speak without excruciating effort or, worse, not being able to speak at all. Imagine having incredible difficulty doing simple things for yourself, like going to the bathroom or ordering coffee. Now imagine that 1 in 150 people have these problems. Here's some news: you don't have to imagine this last scenario. In 2007, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimated the rate of autism in the United States as 1 in 150. Autism typically strikes between birth and age three. Its symptoms can vary widely, but a "crash," a descent into autism after normal development early in life, is always particularly devastating. Usually, children start exhibiting a lack of social contact, followed in many cases by an inability or reduced ability to speak, often accompanied by motor and emotional difficulties, and sometimes even seizures.

Autism doesn't just affect the person with the disability. Families must deal with the emotional and financial burden of supporting a child who often will be unable to support themselves, even in adulthood. Estimates of the percentage of people with autism without full-time jobs vary widely, but most authorities agree the vast majority of those with autism have no full-time employment.

Thus, autism becomes a problem for the wider community, adding a tax burden and necessitating that the community

*see **Autism**, page 20*

Autism Awareness Month: What is the Problem?

*from **Autism**, page 19*

support people with autism because they cannot support themselves.

Some people will point out that people don't die of autism. Strictly speaking, they don't. But in countries that are unable to support people with autism, they are often left to fend for themselves. For millions without supportive family units, this situation is in itself a death sentence. There are undoubtedly many people with autism in the U.S. with similar problems. Unfortunately, not being able to effectively communicate can make it nearly impossible to speak up and let people know the situation.

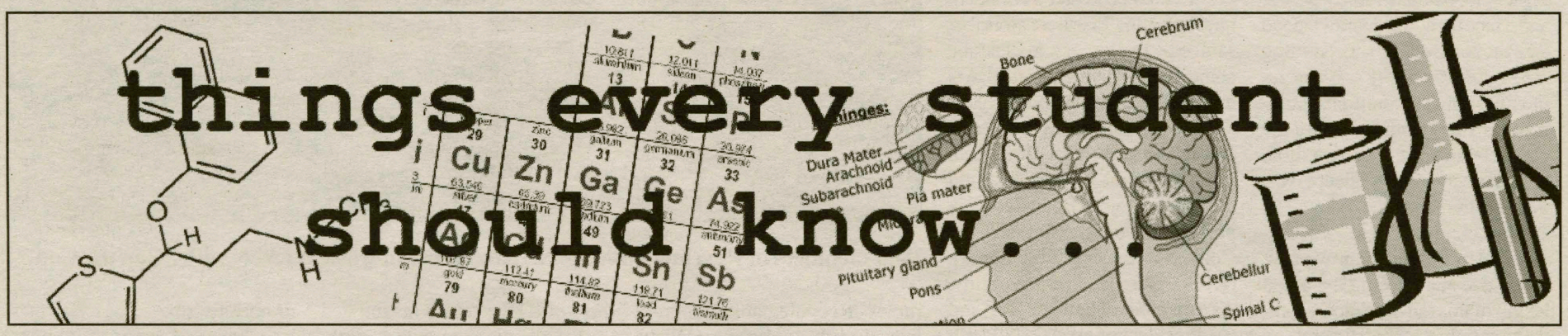
Many people with autism are not allowed to vote as a result of their disorder. Therefore, their pull with politicians is lessened. Although autism research currently receives more funding than it ever has in the past, it still reccieves only a fraction of the funding of diseases with a lower incidence rate, such as pediatric diabetes.

Another facet of the autism problem is the status of mental health care in the United States and worldwide. Many health centers use systems that are outdated or ineffective. Once again, not being able to communicate limits the ability of people with autism to speak up about the quality, or lack thereof, in their medical care.

Furthermore, research into autism is fractionated and scattered. The Autism Society of America (ASA), Cure Autism Now (CAN), Defeat Autism Now (DAN) and several other national programs all support autism research but, despite recent coordination efforts, these organizations often fail to work together when exploring common research goals.

There are a great number of misconceptions surrounding autism. Over the next four weeks, I will address some of them. The first is autism's connection to vaccines. The second is the issue of autistic savants. Third is the confusion surrounding the spectrum nature of autism and varying diagnoses withing the general catergory of "autism." Finally, I will deal with the issue of varying autism treatments.

While reading about this issue, I urge you to keep an open mind. I will do my best to supply you with the facts, but so much in autism is unsure that some opinions will be sure to sneak in. I will try to clearly label the facts as facts, the opinions as opinions, and anything else as whatever it happens to be. Autism is a huge and complex problem, and this year in Autism Awareness Month, you will do yourselves, your soceity and your future children a service by learning about it.



This Week: The Many Dangers of Binge Drinking

by Yinghan Ding '12
Science & Technology Writer

The term "binge drinking" refers to the heavy consumption of alcohol over a short period of time. In the United States, binge drinking is specifically defined as the consumption of five or more drinks in a row by men, or four or more drinks in a row by women in a period of two hours. According to the National Institute of Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, such drinking patterns can bring a person's blood alcohol concentration (known as BAC) to 0.08 percent or above. At this BAC, a person's reasoning, depth perception, distance acuity and peripheral vision all decrease.

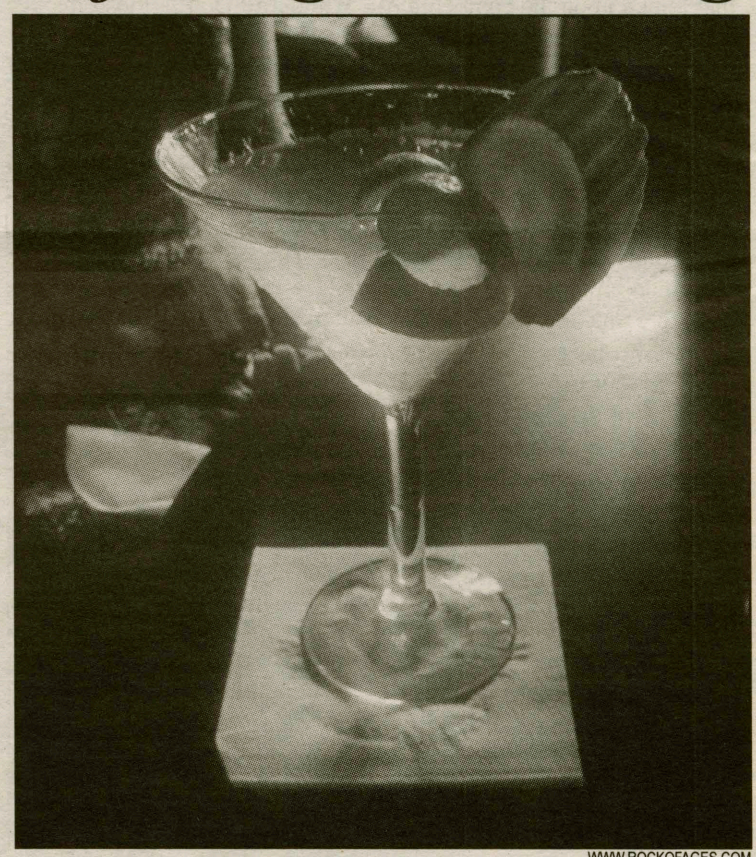
Surprisingly, most of the people who binge are not alcoholics. According to national surveys, about 90 percent of alcohol consumed by youths under the age of 21 in the United States is in the form of binge drinking. The proportion of current drinkers that binge drink is highest in the 18 to 20-year-old group, making up about 51 percent of all binge drinkers. One thing to keep in mind is that the legal age for alcohol consumption in the United States is 21 years old, one of the highest minimum drinking ages in the world. Even so, or possibly even as a result, ten percent of eighth graders, 22 percent of tenth graders and 26 percent of twelfth graders in the United States report having had five or more drinks at least once in the past two weeks according to the annual Monitoring the Future survey in 2007.

Why do people, especially young adults, binge drink? One reason is that many alcoholic beverage companies, bars and liquor stores advertise themselves to make drinking seem more attractive and fun. More importantly, students often get caught up in social scenes with lots of peer pressure, and they don't want to be seen by their peers as "weirdoes" or "cowards." Their friends tell them that binge drinking will make them feel good, but they do not realize that it can just easily make them sick and hung-over. Some claim that binge drinking is a good way to reduce stress, but sometimes they end up creating more stress for themselves. Some younger binge-drinkers even think that binge drinking will make them feel older, and they are just curious to know what it feels like to be drunk.

Although most binge-drinkers have reasons for their drinking behaviors, they are not aware of the health problems associated with binge drinking. Alcohol poisoning is one of the common health problems for binge-drinkers, and over ten students at Hamilton were hospitalized last semester because of the alcohol poisoning. Binge drinking can also cause high blood pressure, stroke, liver disease, neurological damage, diabetes and sexual dysfunction. On college campuses, one main concern is how the negative consequences of binge drinking affect the students mentally as well as physically. A study done by the Harvard School of Public Health reported that students who engage in binge drinking are more likely to participate in irresponsible activities such as missing class, having unplanned or unsafe sexual activity, and are more likely to be victims of sexual assault, unintentional injuries and physical ailments. "I don't do it [binge drinking]." Richard Karrat '12 said, "It hurts your liver. If you drink too much, you might die." It is a very simple idea, but most binge-drinkers just don't care about it.

The key for college administrators to stop students from binge drinking may not just be by setting rules and policies but by correcting a misperception that causes students to binge drink. Many students go off to college falsely thinking that "everybody" is drinking and that binge drinking is the way college socialization works. Correcting this misperception is important because it can break the vicious self-fulfilling prophecy that helps perpetuate collegiate alcohol abuse. Doing so will empower students to do what they, as individuals, generally want to do: drink less or not drink at all. The effective way to reduce alcohol abuse is simply to tell the truth and make sure that people understand the facts.

[Binge drinking] is not a good way of socializing," said Richard Karrat '12, "and people should know this."



WWW.ROCKOFAGES.COM

Drinking five of these in a row for a man, four for a woman, is defined as binge drinking in the United States.

The Green Tip of the Week

by Elijah LaChance '10
Science & Technology Editor

Buy clothes made from natural products, such as cotton.

That polyester shirt has a no-wrinkle solution, but did you know that polyester fiber is made from the same petrochemical compound as plastic water bottles (polyethylene terephthalate)? Polyester is made from non-renewable crude oil that often creates pollution in both its mining and manufacturing, and there are many toxic and harmful chemicals used in the production of polyester. There are other man-made fibers like polyester that are made from petroleum and contain environmentally un-friendly chemicals, such as nylon and rayon. In general, try to buy natural fibers; this decision will keep dangerous chemicals away from workers, away from children, out of the water, ground and air, and it will reduce the use of petroleum – a non-renewable resource.

HEAG to the Hill: Do it in the Dark

Four New Dorms Included from Previous Energy Battle; New Scoring System

by Elijah LaChance '10
Science & Technology Editor

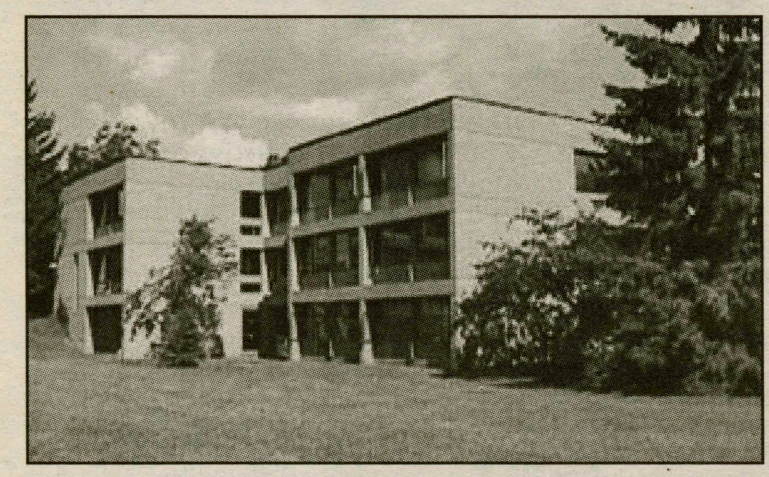
Everyone on the Hill has heard the litany: Go green. Make environmentally friendly choices. Turn out that extra light. Try not using a tray at Commons.

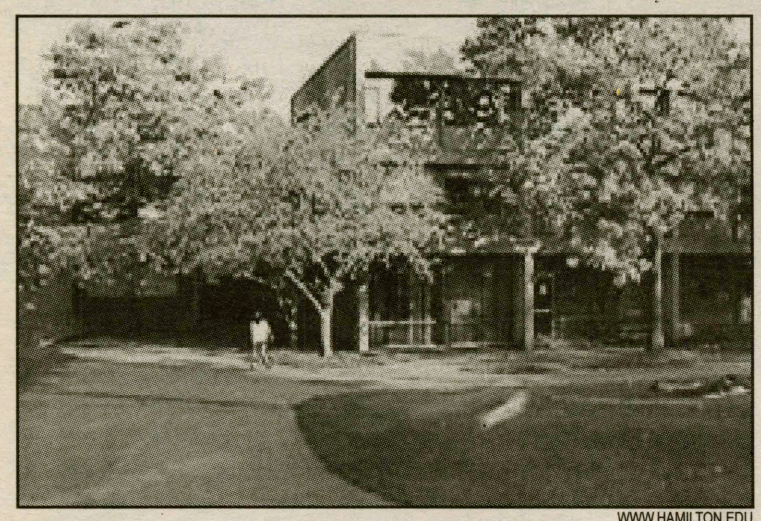
Last year's Dorm Energy Battle provided an exciting chance to compete and see which dorms were the most environmentally in tune. This year, the competition is back with some twists and a new name.

"Do it in the Dark" is the slogan headlining this version of the Dorm Energy Challenge. This year's battle started April 1 and will last until the end of the month. Jeremy Gleason '11, the coordinator of "Do it in the Dark" as well as last year's challenge, explained the reasoning behind the sexually-charged name.

"Do it in the Dark has been used as the name for energy competitions at other schools, namely Union. We thought it had a sort of innuendo-filled, eye-catching ring to it."

That "we" is another difference from the last challenge. Whereas last semester's effort was run largely by Gleason alone, he said, "The main lesson I learned from the first battle is that it is not a one-man show." This year, Gleason has a team of ten other students working with him to make the competition a success.





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The dorms new to energy challenges (top to bottom: South, Carnegie, Keehn, and Root Residence Halls.)

The advertisement system is different from last semester as well. Whereas last year's battle featured a focus on posters and campus-wide publicity, Gleason said that this semester the group is focusing on "within-dorm advertising, the primary vehicle... being to design RA posterboard ads."

This new advertising scheme may reflect a realization that not all students can participate in Do it in the Dark. Since energy usage is calculated based on Hamilton's Building Energy Dashboard site, only dorms that are connected to the site are able to participate. This list includes all the dorms from the previous dorm energy battle, along with South, Carnegie, Root and Keehn.

According to Travis Hill, director of the Office of Residential Life, there are currently 1,725 students living on campus. Extrapolating from floor plans, it can be determined that about 319 of thsese students live in the dorms added this year. Therefore, Do it in the Dark is open to approximately 18.5 percent more Hamilton students than last year's competition.

However, several dorms are still not connected to the system and unable to participate. Most notable among these is Dunham, which houses approximately 50 percent of the first-year class. Also not included are North, Eells, Ferguson, Wallace Johsnon, the LEED Silver-Certified Skenandoa House, and Bundy East and West, which make up approximately 39 percent of the student housing on the Hill. When contacted, representatives from Physical Plant said they could not say for certain when these buildings would be put on the system.

Nevertheless, Gleason and his compatriots are plunging ahead, and have instituted further changes from last semester's challenge. Gleason explains the changes in scoring from last year: "We gave up using a convoluted system of 'handicaps' in order to measure dorm energy use, and will instead be basing the numbers on percent reduction from previous years."

While this new system will pose additional difficulties for those residence halls coming late to the Building Dashboard, it will certainly be an overall improvement from last semester, when questions about handicaps and where dorms actually stood plagued the battle from the outset.

The new system also means that instead of splitting the halls into categories based on the size of the dorms or the number of students housed, there will be only one competition for everyone. That means there will only be one prize.

No one at HEAG would say what this semester's prize would be, although it was described as "fabulous" in an all campus e-mail advertising the event. Gleason, however, emphasized that the prize was not the point of the competition.

"I think what is more important than a material prize is to see how the efforts we, as a group of students, can make in adjusting our lifestyles toward a respect of the environment that we depend on."

Fear not though, there will be some reward. As Gleason said, "The winning dorm will definitely be publicly awarded and lauded... And what is better than being shined on not only by the glory of victory, but also by the sun, part of the environment which you helped to protect?"

Apparently, HEAG has decided to use the carrot more than the stick. When asked if there would be programs in place to get students to reduce energy use besides the thrill of competition, Gleason was emphatic.

"There are no mechanisms for 'pressure' to be put on students to reduce energy usage. Rather, I hope these competitions will continue, and will build momentum in the student body towards adjusting lifestyles more towards the environment, and away from excess consumption. So it is more of trying to get students to *want* to do these things."

Regardless, the spirit of competition is sure to push students to new heights of environmental awareness, or at least some of them. Last semester, Kirkland and Milbank won their respective competitions, and the residence halls were treated to pizza parties at HEAG's expense as their prize. Every dorm in last semester's competition reduced their energy use from the week preceding the challenge. However, some of these reductions were quite small.

With more dorms and students involved in this semester's competition, along with broader organizational involvement and improved advertising and scoring, HEAG is hoping the battle will produce even more dramatic results. In their original message, HEAG promised weekly e-mails to update the campus on the progress of the challenge. As of press time, no e-mails had been sent, despite it being over a week since the competition began.

Although the results of daily power consumption can be viewed at Hamilton's Building Dashboard website (buildingdashboard.com/clients/hamilton/) the section of the website reserved for competitions makes no mention of Do it in the Dark. Certainly, it cannot be part of the program that students are in the dark about their dorms' progress.

Nevertheless, hopes are high in many quarters for the new project, and with spring coming and natural light flooding residence halls across campus, Hamilton students will have more and more excuses to "Do it in the Dark."

Wacky Facts: Cars

by Elijah LaChance '10
Science & Technology Editor

- The first cars did not have steering wheels. Drivers steered with a lever.
- If all the cars from the U.S. were taken and lined up from bumper to bumper, there would be enough cars to go to the moon and back.
- The New York City Police Department used bicycles to pursue speeding cars in 1898.
- Antoine Cadillac founded the city of Detroit.
- The first speeding ticket was issued in 1902.
- In 1916, 55 percent of the cars in the world were Model T Fords.
- The first gas gauge appeared in cars in 1922.
- By 1923, women had invented 173 items for cars, including the carburetor and the electric engine starter.
- The first car radio was invented in 1929.
- Buick introduced the first electric turn signals in 1938.
- The Peanuts characters were first animated in 1957 for a Ford Fairlaine automobile commercial.
- Every year, 50 million automobiles are made in the U.S.
- The monogram "RR" for Rolls-Royce has been altered just once; when Sir Henry Royce passed away in 1933, it was changed from red to black.
- Most American car horns beep in the key of F.
- The automobile is the most recycled consumer product in the world today.
- The average person spends 62 hours in rush-hour traffic per year.
- Four tons of carbon are released when producing a car.
- 159,000 people a year are admitted to the emergency room as a result of high smog pollution.
- Before becoming an automotive pioneer, David Buick was a pumbing inventor.
- Jean Lenoir invented the spark plug in 1860.

Lacrosse Picks Up First Liberty League Win

by Marc Pitaressi '10
SPORTS COLUMNIST

The weather gods of central New York conspired to dump snow and bring driving wind to the Hill for last Saturday's Liberty League contest between the Continentals and the Brewers of Vassar College. The Continentals entered the game at 2-5 overall and 0-1 in Liberty League play, desperately needing a win to snap a five-game losing streak, which included an overtime heartbreaker against SUNY Oneonta. Vassar has not won a league contest since joining the Liberty League, but the inclement weather proved to be the equalizer early on with Max Akuamoah Boateng '09 finally finding the back of the net to start the scoring with 1:26 remaining in the first quarter. Franke Holiber '10 added another goal in the first, and the Continentals were able to battle to a 4-1 halftime lead.

Hamilton was able to overcome the elements and explode offensively in the third quarter, putting up the first six goals of the second half. Stephen Lefebvre '11 notched two goals during the barrage, as did Peter Gerrity '09, who scored two goals just nine seconds apart. "It happened pretty fast," said Gerrity. "The first goal was in transition. I heard coach yell 'Go to the goal!' and Jon (Leanos '12) found me backside and I put it home. On the second goal, Paul (Citrella '12) won a quick face-off and ran down and drew my defender so I had a lot of room to shoot."

PHOTO COURTESY OF MAX VALCKUS '12
Hamilton's Defender Blake Hollinger '09 caused three turnovers in a game against Union.

Henry Burchenal '12 capped the scoring at 8:39 in the fourth quarter and Hamilton's defense was stingy, holding Vassar to just two goals in the second half on the way to a convincing 11-3 win. Paul Citrella was impressive in the face-off circle, winning ten of twelve attempts. The importance of Hamilton's complete team effort was not lost on co-captain Franke Holiber. "It was a must-win for us and we all pulled through."

Saturday's win improves Hamilton to 3-5 overall and 1-1 in the Liberty League, and the Continentals hope that the momentum from their big win over Vassar will carry over to Wednesday's showdown with Union College. "This win was huge for our confidence," said Gerrity. "We only beat Vassar by one last year, and putting up eleven against them makes us believe we can produce against anyone in the league."

The Continentals will travel to Schenectady on Wednesday to face Union, who is 4-3 overall and 0-1 in the Liberty League. Holiber acknowledges the importance of establishing momentum in league play. "It's a huge game, and we view it as a must-win as well. We have been playing well the past two games with a lot of passion and heart, and if we keep that up, good things will happen."

Lacrosse Once Again Starts Season Successfully

by Melissa Nezamzadeh '11
SPORTS WRITER

The women's lacrosse players are taking teams down one by one as they strive to be the best, currently ranked second among division III schools. With eight wins and one loss in the past month, it has surely started the season off well. The first game of the season took place on Campus Road against Nazareth, right before spring break on March 10. The women dominated, winning by nine points for a final score of 15-6.

The team then faced off against Salisbury, currently ranked number one and one of the most anticipated opponents only three games into the season. Last year, the women's lacrosse team faced Salisbury in the National Semi-Final game, where Salisbury lost in a close game, 11-10. This year, Salisbury sought to avenge its loss and succeeded, but only by a small margin, winning 9-12. It was a close game throughout both halves; Liz Rave '10 scored four goals, Anne Graveley '11 scored three goals, Kaillie Briscoe '09 and Sarah Bray '11 both scored one goal each.

Briscoe said, "On the whole, we just weren't prepared to play the full 60 minutes. They came at our defense with a style of offense we hadn't seen yet."

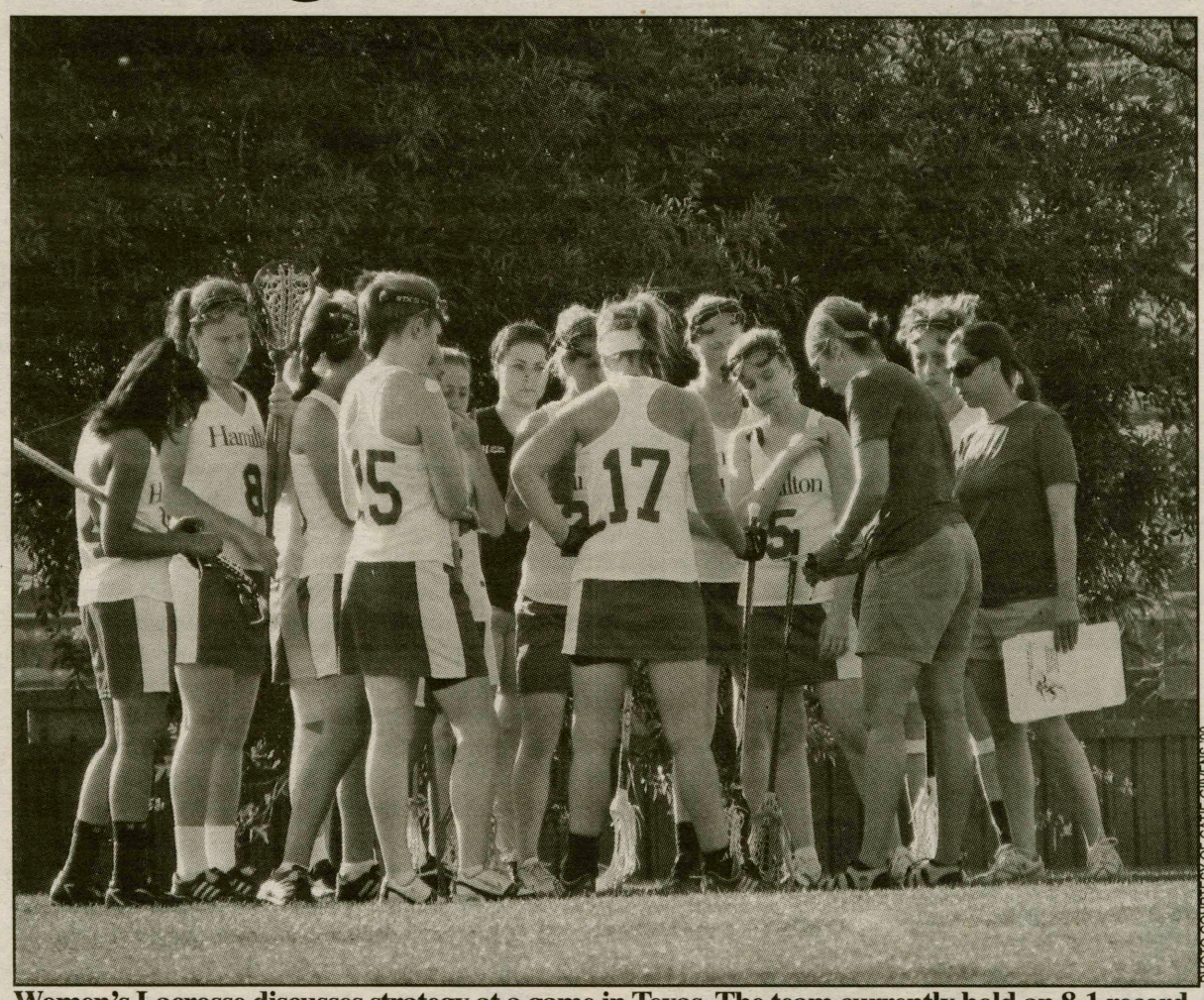

PHOTO COURTESY OF CATIE GIVENS '09
Women's Lacrosse discusses strategy at a game in Texas. The team currently hold an 8-1 record.

Bray added, "A majority of our issues against Salisbury lay in that our season had just begun...the Seagulls were already 7-0 and halfway through their schedule. We hadn't quite perfected the connections and subtleties that are keys to victory."

As everyone can see, the team has not let that one loss affect its game. As Rave put it, "I think that we used a lot of the frustration from the previous game in order to beat Rowan. We were disappointed at the result of the Salisbury game, but it also motivated us to work harder and fix the mistakes we made that game. For example, we have been working on a fast paced attack and I think that really shined in our games this weekend."

With only five more games left in the season, it is very important that they bring home the big wins, especially against teams like Union, The University of Rochester and Ithaca College. Last year, Union lost in the Regional Final, but nonetheless gained competitive experience. Coach Patty Kloidt compared Union's loss last year to Hamilton's loss two years ago.

"We lost in the Regional Final in 2007, and it gave this program a boost in terms of wanting to back to that point," she said. "I assume they will be just as hungry to redeem themselves."

As for the University of Rochester and Ithaca College, both teams brought great offense last year making Hamilton's defense really work for the win, and lets keep in mind that Hamilton's defense is one of the best in the nation.

As always, the team is keeping a positive attitude and keeping it fun as the women work hard to reach finals.

American Football in Italy: About the Gladiatori Roma

by Lindsay Getman '10
Sports Contributor

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Lindsay Getman '11

For a suburban-raised American girl, Rome was an exciting but daunting place to study abroad. The initial adjustment to Italian culture wasn't easy. I am an unabashedly die-hard "five o'clock Commons" fan, so dinner at 10 p.m. was almost unthinkable. Going for a jog in sweatpants and my Citrus Bowl t-shirt elicited bewildered stares and whistles from strangers on Vespas. Toto, we're not at Hamilton anymore.

Aside from adjusting to a new set of cultural norms, I also worried about improving my language skills. My inability to communicate became painfully obvious after, I paid €15 for a hairbrush from a man with a faux-hawk and size-zero skinny jeans, despite three semesters of Italian. And so, when I discovered that my program offered an internship seminar, and the chance to meet and speak with real Italians, I jumped at the chance.

As a former *Spectator* sports editor and writer, I decided that an internship doing promotional and organizational work for the Gladiatori Roma (or Roman Gladiators, Rome's only "football americano" team) would be an awesome opportunity. When most people hear the words "Roman gladiators," they imagine the Colosseum and a sword-wielding Russell Crowe. Though Italy is known for its ancient past, a new sport is emerging for the warriors of the 21st century: American football.

The Gladiators were born in 1973, the brainchild of Bob Kap and Bruno Beneck, then president of the Italian Federation of Baseball and Softball. The team originally played in the Intercontinental Football League (IFL). The IFL's first big tournament, in 1977, drew a crowd of 12,000 spectators to a NATO base in Viareggio. A few years later, the League of Italian Football was founded, and consisted of four teams. Today the organization is called the Federation of Italian Football (FIF), and has grown to include twelve teams in two leagues, Golden and Silver. In a country where children play soccer as soon as they can walk, the team doesn't expect to draw the tens of thousands of fans that flock to A.F.C. Roma's soccer matches at the Stadio Olimpico. Still, on a recent, sunny Sunday, almost one hundred Romans (and a few Americans) spent the afternoon enjoying Italian-style American football.

Like most things in Italy, close bonds of friendship and family connections have been the primary impetus behind the growth of the team. Players invite acquaintances from their high school, university, neighborhood or workplace. There are brothers, nephews, fathers and sons: generations of Gladiators dedicated to a sport that they have learned to love and a team that has become like one huge family.

Even with such intense devotion to the sport, the team has faced challenges. The players range in age from 16 to 40. Scheduling conflicts with school, work, travel and family occasions occur not infrequently, and put a strain on the already small group. Up until this season, the team practiced and hosted games on a field of mud, sand and rocks. Injuries pose a huge problem as well, and players are often forced to play both offense and defense in a single game to make up for such losses. Yet through it all, the Gladiators have shown the same spirit as their ancient Roman namesakes. As my friend Giacomo so aptly explained, "If I did not continue to try, if I was not persistent, then I will have failed. At least if I am always trying, I am never failing."

In many ways, the Gladiators have become my own little bit of Hamilton in Italy. The team has shown me the same openness, understanding and loyalty that I have come to recognize and appreciate as a part of life on the Hill. Even when I mix up verbs ("to find" and "to have sex" are unfortunately quite similar) or invent new Italian words by adding vowels to the end of English words, my teammates always patiently correct me and never make me feel silly. Though they might not make it to the Italian Superbowl, I am incredibly proud of how hard they have tried. Come fall, I will be back in the stands on Steuben Field, cheering on another hard-working squad and remembering the kindness and generosity shown to me by this amazing team.

PHOTO COURTESY OF LINDSAY GETMAN '10

Athlete of the Week: James Russell '09

by Kate Greenough '09
Sports Editor

Age: 22

Hometown: Queensbury, NY

Sport/Event: Hamilton Field and Track – Pole Vault

Describe what it takes to excel in Pole Vault: Speed, strength, and coordination. But on the real, you need balls of steel, an iron lung, and one HEALTHY initiative. And a coach that eats hard workouts for breakfast.

Years Competing: Baker's Dozen

Claim to Fame: I hold both the indoor and outdoor pole vault records at around 15 feet. I am also a three-time NESCAC champion in the pole vault. I will look for the clean sweep at Connecticut College on April 26.

Proudest Athletic Moment: I reset the pole vault record at the 2007 ECAC Outdoor Championships. I made my third attempt at three heights (you only get three attempts at each height) on my way to clearing 15 feet for a 2nd place finish.

Most Embarrassing Athletic Moment: I got on a pole that wasn't stiff enough, so it bent way too much. The pole was between my legs when I let go, and the backlash from the pole, well...you get it.

Favorite Pro Athlete: Jack Mehoffer

Favorite Sports Movie: *The Sound of Music*

Hobbies: Knit Happens, embarrassing tour guides, and loving the pole

Next Meet: Saturday at Roberts Wesleyan in Rochester, N.Y.

PHOTO COURTESY OF JAMES RUSSELL '09

James Russell '09 in action during a season meet.

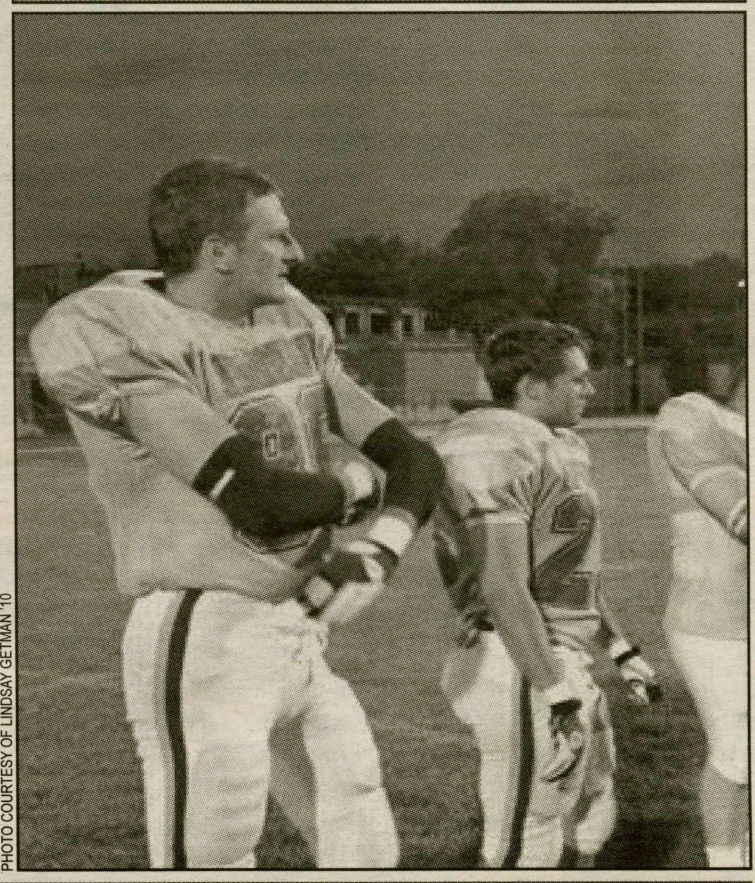
PHOTO COURTESY OF LINDSAY GETMAN '10

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SPECTATOR SPORTS

April 9, 2009

Men's Baseball Team Starts Season With 9-8 Record

by Jeff Rudberg '10
Sports Writer

The Hamilton College baseball team accomplished its goal of achieving a winning record during their 14-game trip to Florida. A 9-7 win over Westminster (MO) on their last day in Auburndale, FL. improved the Continental's record to 8-6. However, it was not this win, nor any of their other wins, that drew the most attention across the NESCAC and the country. In just its third game of the season, Hamilton held a one-run lead heading into the 9th inning against the then-number-one ranked team in the country, Trinity College. Hamilton eventually lost in 12 innings, but the Continentals proved they can compete with anyone on their schedule in 2009.

Now the Continentals are 9-8 overall and 1-1 in the NESCAC West after splitting a double header last Sunday with Amherst College. Hamilton's team offensive numbers are significantly higher than last season, thanks to four players hitting over .400 through the team's first 17 games. Sam Choate '12(.481), Wes Mayberry '11 (.436), Alex Augustyn '10 (.417), and Justin Atwood '11 (.404) have combined for 29 of the teams 42 extra-base hits so far this season. Head Coach Tim Byrnes believes that all four players have the ability to end the year above .400. In the past six seasons, John Porges '07 was the closest to reaching this milestone, hitting .382 in 2005.

Choate is making an early case for conference rookie of the year. Coach Byrnes commented, "I knew Sam would be a good ball player, but I was not expecting him to be hitting almost .500." Choate also leads the team with his .541 on-base percentage, which is third best in the NESCAC, and is making the most of his opportunities when he gets on. He is first on the team in stolen bases, converting on 7 of his 8 attempts so far, helping him cross the plate 16 times already.

Heading into the season the battle for the starting catcher position was wide open. So far, Pat Gennaco '11 has started the most games behind the plate with nine and has the best offensive numbers of all four catchers. It is likely that the other three will see limited time at the position, especially on double headers, as it looks as if it is Gennaco is a step ahead of the rest.

PHOTO COURTESY OF ALEX AUGUSTYN '10

Max Foster '10 leads the Continentals from the mound with 33 strikeouts this season .

The 1-2 starting pitching combination of Max Foster '10 and Jake Saidman '09 is carrying the Continental pitching staff in 2009. Both pitchers have an ERA under 4.00 while every other pitcher is above 6.00. Foster and Saidman have each thrown more than 14 more innings than anyone else on the Hamilton pitching staff.

In the case of Saidman, Coach Byrnes credits his career year to his "hard work that goes above and beyond the expectations of a division III pitcher." Saidman's hard work provides Hamilton with the quality number two starting pitcher necessary for success in conference play.

Foster's 33 strikeouts this season, good for third in the NESCAC, brings his career total to 119. He is now just 16 away from James Harrison's school record 135. About the record, Foster said, "I look at it occasionally. It's a big milestone and it will be pretty cool if and when it happens."

Perhaps even more impressive than the strikeouts is Foster's dramatic decrease in walks. In his first season, Foster walked 25 batters in 37.1 innings. As a sophomore, he walked 40 batters in 55 innings. So far this season he has only walked 7 batters in 30 innings. Max credits much of this improvement to new pitching coach Matt Leahy. "Coach Leahy has been great. He handles all of us like pros. and we have a consistent schedule between starts."

Part of this new schedule has given Foster the opportunity to appear in relief in games the day before he starts. Max enjoys the added role, where he has already earned two saves, saying, "It's a good way to tune up with 15 to 20 pitches the day before I start. It's a great confidence boost."

Despite the individual success, Foster keeps his focus on the team goals, "It's not one or two guys anymore. Lots of people are chipping in now, and people are starting to respect us."

This weekend Hamilton continues conference play with a three game series at Wesleyan. Last season the cardinals took two of the three games by scoring a total of 31 runs. This year the Continentals have the bats to keep up, the starting pitching to slow them down, and the chance to earn more respect.

Track and Field Heats Up Despite Cold Weather

by James Russell '10 and Scott Bickard '11
Sports Columnists

Like Devon Lynch '11 said before his phone interview at a Boston art gallery internship this summer, the Hamilton men's team waited for the call on Saturday night. "No way we run tomorrow," Cam Gaylord '09 said. "Not in these conditions." The non-scoring home meet had already been pushed back from Saturday April to Sunday. Several visiting schools had backed out. But the call never came. Scottie Reynolds was off that night, but the meet was on (Devon's phone interview also came—results on that next week).

You would have to understand the routine of a Hamilton track athlete to know what it meant for the team to compete on Sunday (as opposed to Saturday). For the runners, Mondays and Wednesdays consist of workouts on the track, with distance runs covering the remaining days. The jumpers, vaulters, and throwers all have their gym routines set during the week. The schedule rarely changes. During our pre-meet run on Saturday afternoon, I tried comparing our situation to basketball, where the prospect of adding games or switching them wouldn't really affect the team. However, of the many things I've learned since coming to Hamilton, it's that cross country/track cannot be compared to any other sport (but that doesn't stop this column from trying).

Start time temperatures were listed at 38°, with a "feels like" of 23°. Unfortunately, the first event was the steeplechase, which forces runners to jump over (and usually into) water on each lap. "Water's cold today," water pit stirrer/tester Tim Olsen said. Mrs. Coach Hull had somehow suckered Emily Potter '12 and Emily Gaudet'12 into running their first career college steeple chase races for the women's team. "Freshmen," Abby King '11 said. In fact, of the five girls in the race, three were freshmen, one St. Rose girl who did not enter her class year, and the last, Erin West '11. West's name may as well have had an asterisk next to it, for her Alaskan heritage evoked laughter at the so-called "brutal" conditions. Despite those conditions, the three Hamilton girls made it through their steeplechase debuts, with Potter taking second place in 12:38.

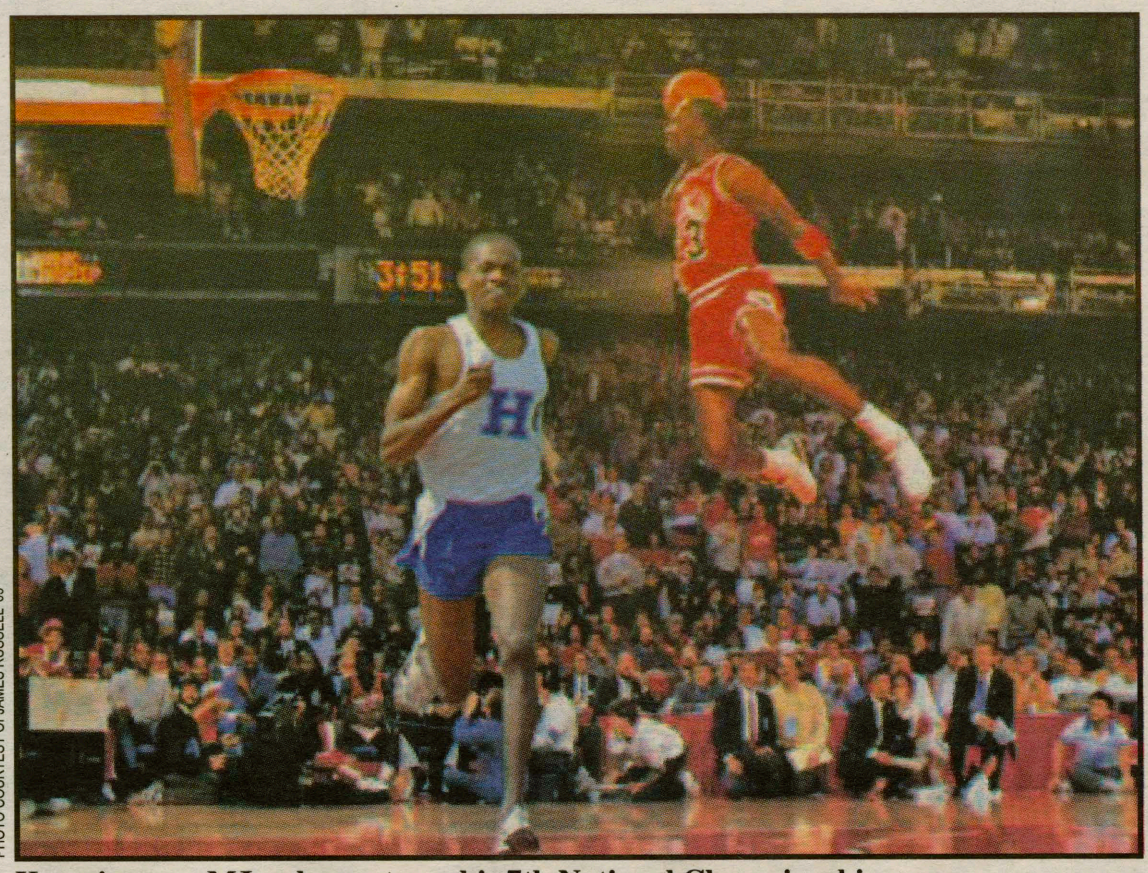

PHOTO COURTESY OF JAMES RUSSELL '09

Kosgei passes MJ as he captures his 7th National Championship.

As promised, Peter Kosgei '10 ran his first steeple chase of the year on Sunday. It's always amazing how well he has fared in cold temperatures, considering his Kenyan roots. Add another layer of mystery to the legend of Kosgei. His goal for the race was to post an NCAA qualifying mark so he could focus on qualifying for other events in the upcoming races. For Kosgei, that meant he would have to push a little, but not too hard in his best event. The result: A 9:16 NCAA provisional qualifying mark (not automatic, but should be good enough to qualify).

Liz Wahl '10 stuck to what she does best, taking first place in the 100m and 2nd in the 200m. Jackie "Liz" Wald '12 also had a nice day, with a pr run of just over 65 seconds in the 400m. Lauren "PC" Peters-Collaer '11 continued her success from indoor with first in the high jump.

2008 Cross Country Nationals qualifier Meredith Fitzpatrick '11 has slowly been easing herself back into her routine after taking the indoor season off. Fitzpatrick's carefree running style guided her to a solid fifth place finish in the 800m in 2:27.

In the field events, Josh Orndorff '11 took second in the shot after a massage by hands man Dylan Palmer '09. John Higginbotham '10 placed second in the high jump at 1.78m. "I don't think I've seen that kid at practice before," Keith Gross '09 said. Expect more info on this mystery man and possible budding star in the future.

Men's Golden Spike Winner: Cuffie Winkler '10 - Cuffie electric shaved 9 seconds off his previous PR to run a 4:10 1500m. Given the weather conditions, and the fact that his time converts to about a 4:27 mile, (which would also be a substantial PR) Cuffie has to be excited about what this means for his 800 chances of breaking 2:00 and beyond. "That's Heisman stuff right there" noted Devon Lynch.

Women's Frozen Spike Winners: Women's steeplechase trio: "The Three E's." Erin West '11, Emily Potter '12, and Emily Gaudet '12 handled the toughest event during the toughest part of the day.